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HEALTH DEPARTMENT.

BOROUGH OF RAMSGATE.



ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

Medical Officer of Health

AND

School Medical Officer

FOR THE YEAR

1933.

W. J. BANNISTER, M.D., D.P.H.



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Printers :
"The East Kent Times." Ltd.,
Ramsgate.

BOROUGH OF RAMSGATE.

HEALTH COMMITTEE.

(1933-1934).

Chairman: Councillor T. H. PRESTEDGE.

HIS WORSHIP THE MAYOR	Councillor H. STEAD.
(Alderman E. E. Dye, J.P.)	„ W. F. SAULL.
Alderman Mrs. F. L. DUNN, J.P.	„ W. T. SMITH.
„ C. NIXON.	„ P. SOLLY.
Councillor E. MARSDEN.	„ Rev. Fr. WATERHOUSE

MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE STANDING SUB-COMMITTEE.

Chairman: Alderman Mrs. F. L. DUNN, J.P.

HIS WORSHIP THE MAYOR	Councillor H. STEAD.
(Alderman E. E. Dye, J.P.)	„ Rev. Fr. WATERHOUSE
Councillor T. H. PRESTEDGE.	Mrs. AMOS.
„ W. F. SAULL.	Mrs. DEVESON.
„ P. SOLLY.	Mrs. HORSLEY.

EDUCATION COMMITTEE.

Chairman: Councillor H. STEAD.

Vice-Chairman: Councillor R. REYNOLDS.

HIS WORSHIP THE MAYOR	Councillor P. SOLLY.
(Alderman E. E. Dye, J.P.)	„ Rev. Fr. WATERHOUSE
Alderman Mrs. F. L. DUNN, J.P.	Col. C. E. BOWEN.
Councillor R. J. MALLAM.	Rev. D. A. J. CARDOZO.
„ E. MARSDEN.	Miss I. S. WRIGHT.
„ W. F. SAULL.	Mr. E. F. G. CHAPMAN.
„ W. T. SMITH.	Mr. R. F. C. HARVEY.

*To His Worship the Mayor, the Aldermen and Councillors of the
Borough of Ramsgate.*

Mr. Mayor, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I beg to submit my Annual Report for the year 1933, prepared in accordance with the instructions of the Ministry of Health and Board of Education, on the Health and Sanitary conditions of the Borough and on the work in connection with the School Medical Service.

The statistics for the year compare favourably with those for the rest of the country and, with the exception of an increase in the number of cases of Scarlet Fever, the low incidence of infectious disease which has obtained in the Borough in recent years continued.

The Registrar-General estimates that the population of the Borough at mid-year was 33,630, which is 260 less than the estimate for 1932 and 180 more than the estimate for mid-year 1931. The death rate for the year is 11.79, the birth rate 14, and the infant mortality rate 59.44 per 1,000 births.

The various services and schemes continue to function satisfactorily and the report gives an indication of the large and increasing amount of work carried out by the Health Department.

In the report on the School Medical Service reference is made to Dame Janet School, which was opened in September, but provision has not yet been made for the open-air education of the weakly and backward children who need it.

I would acknowledge the assistance rendered by my medical colleagues, the loyal co-operation of all members of the staff of the department, and would express my thanks to Chairmen of Committees and Members of the Council for support during the year.

I am,

Mr. Mayor, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your Obedient Servant,

W. J. BANNISTER,

*Medical Officer of Health and
School Medical Officer.*

Health Office,

26, Albion Place,

Ramsgate.

May, 1934.

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Staff of Health Department.

*Medical Officer of Health,
School Medical Officer and Bacteriologist :*

W. J. BANNISTER, M.D., B.S., B.A.O., D.P.H.

Senior Sanitary Inspector :

E. YOUNG, Assoc. R.S.I., M.S.I.A.,

Cert. Meat Inspector R.S.I.

Sanitary Inspector :

T. MARTIN, Assoc. R.S.I., M.S.I.A.

Cert. Meat Inspector R.S.I.

Health Visitors :

*Miss G. CLARK.

*Miss W. CARPENTER.

Miss A. ASHWELL.

Miss R. HOWELLS.

*Certificated Midwife, Central Midwives Board.

Clerks :

S. GORHAM.

C. IMPETT.

BOROUGH OF RAMSGATE.

1.—General Statistics.

Area of the Borough in Acres (excluding Foreshore) ...	2,278
Population, Census 1931	33,603
Population, as estimated by the Registrar-General for statistical purposes, 1933	33,630
Number of inhabited houses (end of 1933) according to Rate Books	8,474
Number of inhabited structurally separate dwellings (1931)	8,038
Number of private families or separate occupiers (1931)	9,062
Rateable Value	£221,780
Sum represented by a penny rate	£850
Rainfall, 1933	19.38 ins.
Sunshine, 1933	1931.5 hrs

2.—Extracts from Vital Statistics of the Year 1933

		Total.	Males.	Females.	
Live Births	{ Legitimate	432	206	226	} Birth Rate 14.00
	{ Illegitimate	39	18	21	
Still-Births	...	20	11	9	} Rate per 1,000 total births 40.73
Deaths		477	225	252	
					} Death Rate (corrected) 11.79
Percentage of total deaths occurring in public institutions within or without the district					
					34.17

Deaths from puerperal causes :—

		Deaths.	Rate per 1,000 total (live and still) Births.
Puerperal Sepsis	...	2	4.07
Other Puerperal Causes	...	1	2.03
Total		3	6.10

Death Rate of Infants under one year of age :—

All infants per 1,000 live births	59.44
Legitimate infants per 1,000 legitimate live births ...	57.87
Illegitimate infants per 1,000 illegitimate live births	76.92
Deaths from Measles, all ages	Nil
Deaths from Whooping Cough, all ages	1
Deaths from Diarrhoea, under 2 years of age	2

The following Table has been drawn up to render possible a comparison as regards Vital Statistics for 1933, between England and Wales as a whole, etc., and Ramsgate.

	Rate per 1,000 Total Population		Annual Death Rate per 1,000 Population.									Rate per 1,000 Live Births		Percentage of Total Deaths			
	Live Births.	Stillbirths.	All Causes	Typhoid and Paratyphoid Fevers.	Small-Pox	Measles	Scarlet Fever	Whooping Cough	Diphtheria	Influenza	Violence	Diarrhoea and Enteritis (under Two Years)	Total Deaths under One Year	Certified by Registered Medical Practitioners	Inquest Cases	Certified by Coroner after P.M. No Inquest.	Uncertified Causes of Death
England and Wales ...	14.2	0.62	12.3	0.01	0.00	0.05	0.02	0.05	0.06	0.57	0.54	7.1	64	90.9	6.3	1.9	0.9
118 County Boroughs and Great Towns, including London... ..	14.4	0.67	12.2	0.00	0.00	0.06	0.02	0.06	0.08	0.55	0.49	9.4	67	91.0	6.0	2.5	0.5
132 Smaller Towns (Estimated Resident Populations 25,000 to 50,000 at Census, 1931) ...	14.5	0.63	11.0	0.00	0.00	0.04	0.02	0.04	0.04	0.53	0.44	4.9	56	91.7	5.8	1.5	1.0
London	13.2	0.45	12.2	0.00	0.00	0.02	0.02	0.08	0.08	0.51	0.58	11.6	59	88.3	6.3	5.4	0.0
RAMSGATE	14.00	0.59	11.79	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.02	0.02	0.00	0.44	0.77	4.2	59	89.33	7.12	1.46	2.09

MATERNAL MORTALITY—Rate per 1,000 Live Births—			Puerperal Sepsis.			Others		Total.
England and Wales			..	1.79	2.63	4.42		4.42
RAMSGATE			..	4.24	2.12	6.36		6.36
Rate per 1,000 Total Births—								
England and Wales			..	1.71	2.52	4.23		4.23
RAMSGATE			..	4.07	2.03	6.10		6.10

BOROUGH OF RAMSGATE.

Physical Features and General Character of the District.

The Borough of Ramsgate, situated in the most favoured position in the Isle of Thanet, has a south aspect. It covers an area of 2,306 acres, and is roughly triangular in shape, having the sea along the whole of its base, which extends from the adjoining district of Broadstairs on the north-east to the Borough boundary west of Pegwell. With the exception of a small area near the Royal Harbour, the Borough may be said to stand on high ground with a fine outlook on the sea, and views of the Kent coastline and hills towards the South Foreland. The many natural advantages include a subsoil of chalk, comparative freedom from rain and fog, abundant sunshine, an equable temperature, and some protection from north and east winds. A large expanse of particularly fine sand covers most of the foreshore. Ramsgate, consequently, has long been famous as a health resort and residential town. With the exception of the various activities in connection with a large fishing industry and some minor industries, the inhabitants are chiefly occupied in catering for the wants and pleasures of residents and a large number of visitors during the season. The low rainfall, much bright sunshine, and breezes from the open sea render Ramsgate an ideal place for recuperation for those run down in health. The natural advantages and amenities of the town render it a favourable place of residence for persons retiring from active life, and induce a certain number of parents to take up their permanent residence here with the object of restoring their delicate children to robust health.

For administrative purposes the Borough is divided into two parishes, Ramsgate and St. Lawrence Intra; and into six wards, East Cliff, West Cliff, East Central, West Central, Sir Moses Montefiore and St. Lawrence.

Meteorology.

The following tables give information in reference to some of the meteorological observations made in the Borough :—

The Borough Surveyor has kindly furnished records of sunshine, rainfall and temperature.

SUNSHINE, 1933.

Month.	Total Sunshine in hours.	Daily Average in hours.
January	58.0	1.87
February	96.2	3.44
March	189.9	6.13
April	187.1	6.34
May	197.8	6.38
June	269.1	8.97
July	251.2	8.10
August	271.9	8.77
September	190.3	6.34
October	117.0	3.77
November	47.1	1.57
December	55.9	1.80
Total	1931.5	

RAINFALL, 1933.

Month.	Total in inches.	Greatest Fall in 24 hours.	No. of Days with 0.01 inches or more.
January	1.73	0.44 on 7th	12
February	0.70	0.12 on 27th	14
March	0.88	0.23 on 16th	13
April	0.63	0.28 on 26th	10
May	1.08	0.39 on 6th	14
June	1.97	0.43 on 12th	13
July	1.61	0.43 on 16th	12
August	0.54	0.22 on 22nd	8
September	5.49	2.04 on 24th	10
October	1.77	0.48 on 7th	16
November	2.46	0.47 on 4th	16
December	0.52	0.22 on 26th	9
Total	19.38		

MEAN TEMPERATURES, 1933.

January	Deg. 39.2	July	Deg. 65.5
February	41.6	August... ..	66.7
March... ..	46.2	September	62.2
April	49.3	October	53.7
May	54.1	November	44.6
June	59.8	December	35.8

Lowest Mean Temperature, 28.0 degrees on 18th, 24th and 25th January.

Highest Mean Temperature, 90.0 degrees on 27th July.

Population.

The population of the Borough as ascertained by the Census of April, 1931, was 33,603, consisting of 15,277 males and 18,326 females.

Particulars of this population were as follows :—

Total Population	..	33,603	Males	15,277	..	Females	18,326
Private Families	..	..	Total	9,062	..	Units	31,830
Private Dwellings	..	..	Total	8,420	..	Occupied	8,038
Private Rooms	..	..	Total	28,529	..	Occupied	45,897
No. of Families per occupied dwelling, 1.13 (same as in Census 1921)							
Average size of families	..	..	3.51				
Average number per room	..	..	0.69				
Density of Population	..	..	14.6 persons per acre.				

Particulars regarding density in the Wards in the Borough were as follows :—

Ward.	Popu- lation.	Persons per acre.	Private families.	Persons.	Separate dwellings occupied.	Rooms occupied.	Persons per acre.
East Central ..	3,704	51.4	989	3,544	875	4,513	0.79
East Cliff ..	3,398	55.7	867	3,086	720	4,176	0.74
St. Lawrence ..	7,388	5.7	2,084	7,070	1,892	10,745	0.66
Sir Moses Montefiore	11,866	16.5	3,160	11,591	2,920	15,736	0.74
West Central ..	4,371	45.1	1,253	4,007	1,037	6,897	0.58
West Cliff ..	2,876	45.7	709	2,532	594	3,830	0.66

The Registrar-General estimates that the population at mid-year 1933 was 33,630, and on that figure are based the statistics for the year. It is thus considered that between mid-year 1932 and mid-year 1933 the population diminished by 260 and that in 1933 there were 27 more residents than at the time the Census of 1931 was taken and 180 more than at mid-year 1931.

In 1933 the number of deaths in the Borough exceeded the number of births by six.

Births.

The number of births registered for the Borough during the year was 471, boys 224, girls 247; the birth rate for the year was, therefore, 14.00 per 1,000 as compared with the rate of 14.19 in 1932 and 14.82 in 1931. Of the total number of births, 39 were illegitimate children, a percentage of 8.2 as compared with 4.9 in 1932. Twenty stillbirths were registered during the year, 10 males and 9 females, legitimate, and 1 male illegitimate.

Deaths.

The number of deaths registered in the Borough during the year was 391; of these 20 were non-residents and must be deducted; 106 deaths of residents occurred outside the Borough, and these must be added. The net number of deaths of residents was consequently 477, males 225, females 252, giving a net death rate of 14.18 per 1,000 of the population as compared with a rate of 12.89 in 1932 and 12.82 in 1931.

Census returns have shown that as regards age and sex distribution the population of Ramsgate differs greatly from that of the country as a whole, and in order to allow and equalise for this the crude death rate must be multiplied by the standardizing factor supplied by the Registrar-General. The corrected death rate for 1933 for the Borough is, therefore, 11.79 per 1,000 as compared with a rate of 10.72 in 1932 and with a rate of 12.3 per 1,000 for England and Wales.

The number of deaths of infants under one year of age was 28, giving an infant mortality rate of 59.44 per 1,000 births, as compared with a rate of 43.65 in 1932 and 56.45 in 1931.

Of the infants under one year who died, three were illegitimate, and as the births of 39 illegitimate children were registered during the year, the mortality rate amongst illegitimate infants was 76.92 per 1,000.

The causes of and ages at death are given in the Mortality and Infant Mortality Tables which follow.

Inquests.

Inquests were held by the Coroner for the district as to the causes of death of 28 persons who died in the Borough during the year; of these four were non-residents.

SUICIDES	...	...	8	OTHER CAUSES	...	6
By Coal Gas Poisoning		2		Natural Causes	..	5
By Poisoning	..	2		Drowning	..	1
By Drowning	..	2				
By Hanging	..	1				
Fall from Cliff	..	1				
	ACCIDENTS	...	...	...	14	
	Injury (shock)	..	..	11		
	Death under anæsthetic	..	1			
	Poisoning (drug)	..	..	1		
	Suffocation (by bedclothes)	..	1			

Uncertified Deaths.

The percentage of uncertified deaths in the Borough during the year was high as compared with percentage figures for the rest of the country given by the Registrar-General. The position, however, shows an improvement on recent years, as only 12 deaths (10 residents and 2 non-residents) were uncertified in 1933 (3.06 per cent. of total deaths within the Borough), compared with 18 (4.9 per cent.) in 1932, and 21 (5.7 per cent.) in 1931; the number of Inquests held in the Borough during the year was 28, as compared with 16 in 1932 and 23 in 1931.

The percentage figures for the Borough given in the following comparative summary are calculated on the number of uncertified deaths of and inquests held on residents who died within and outside the Borough.

Uncertified Causes of Death						Percentage of Total Deaths	Inquest Cases.
England and Wales						0.9	6.3
118 County Boroughs and Great Towns, including London						0.5	6.0
132 Smaller Towns (Estimated Resident populations 25,000-50,000 at Census 1931)						1.0	5.8
London						0.0	6.3
RAMSGATE						2.09	7.12

In the returns of deaths supplied by the local Registrar the following words appear in the column for causes of death in respect of the uncertified deaths of which the age and sex is given.

Cause of Death.	Sex.	Age.
"Influenza toxæmia"	Male	20 years
"Heart Disease"	Female	76 years
"A sudden apoplectic stroke"	Male	72 years
"Acute Bronchitis. Senile Decay"	Female	80 years
"Cerebral hæmorrhage due to fracture of skull caused by a fall. Accidental Death"	Male	41 years
"Heart failure from fibrosis of the heart and old age"	Female	80 years
"Heart failure due to dropsy due to mitral disease and myocarditis"	Male	78 years
"Sudden heart failure. Fatty degeneration of the heart"	Female	78 years
"Probably sudden heart failure while playing cricket"	Male	55 years
"Heart failure and sequelæ of aortic disease"	Male	44 years
"Heart failure due to chronic myorcarditis"	Female	79 years
"Sudden heart failure due to old age and exertion in the cold weather"	Female	79 years

MORTALITY TABLE.

Causes of, and Ages at Death during the Year 1933.

BOROUGH OF RAMSGATE.

Cause of Death.				Net Deaths at the subjoined Ages of "Residents" whether occurring within or without the District.										Total Deaths, whether of Residents or Non- Residents, in Institu- tions in the District.
				All ages.	Under 1 year.	1 and under 2 years.	2 and under 5 years.	5 and under 15 years.	15 and under 25 years.	25 and under 45 years.	45 and under 65 years.	65 and under 75 years.	75 years and upwards.	
All Causes	Certified	...	...	467	28	5	5	10	19	32	105	98	165	78
	Uncertified	...	...	10	...	...	...	...	1	1	1	1	6	...
Typhoid and Paratyphoid Fevers				...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Measles				...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Scarlet Fever				1	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...
Whooping Cough				1	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...
Diphtheria				...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Influenza				15	...	...	1	...	2	1	4	3	4	1
Encephalitis Lethargica				...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Cerebro-spinal fever				...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Tuberculosis of Respiratory System				21	...	...	...	...	7	6	8	...	...	...
Other Tuberculous Diseases				6	1	1	...	...	3	1	...	...	...	4
Syphilis				...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
General paralysis of the insane, tabes dorsalis				3	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	...	1	1
Cancer, Malignant Disease				60	...	...	...	1	...	2	20	20	17	4
Diabetes				3	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	1	1	3
Cerebral Hæmorrhage, etc.				36	...	...	...	...	...	...	7	11	18	1
Heart Disease				89	...	...	...	3	1	2	14	30	39	7
Aneurysm				2	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	...	...	1
Other circulatory diseases				13	...	...	...	...	...	1	3	6	3	3
Bronchitis				37	1	...	...	...	...	...	5	2	29	2
Pneumonia (all forms)				18	4	1	...	...	...	2	2	3	6	10
Other Respiratory Diseases				8	...	...	...	...	1	...	4	..	3	...
Peptic Ulcer				1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...
Diarrhœa, etc. (under 2 years)				2	1	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Appendicitis				3	...	...	...	...	...	1	2	...	...	4
Cirrhosis of Liver				2	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	1	...	...
Other diseases of liver, etc.				...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Other digestive diseases				12	...	...	1	1	...	2	6	1	1	6
Acute and Chronic Nephritis				13	...	...	...	...	...	2	2	4	5	2
Puerperal Sepsis				2	...	...	...	...	...	2	...	...	...	...
Other puerperal causes				1	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	1
Congenital Debility, Premature Birth, Malformations, etc.				19	19	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	4
Senility				30	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	29	...
Suicide				6	...	...	...	...	1	1	3	1	...	1
Other violence				20	1	1	...	2	1	4	2	2	7	10
Other defined diseases				52	1	1	3	1	3	5	18	12	8	11
Causes ill-defined or unknown				1	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...
				477	28	5	5	10	20	33	106	99	171	78

Infectious Diseases.

The following diseases are notifiable in the Borough :—

By the Infectious Diseases (Notification) Act, 1899—

Smallpox.	Typhus Fever.	Puerperal Fever.
Scarlet Fever.	Cholera.	Erysipelas.
Diphtheria.	Plague.	Continued Fever.
Enteric Fever.	Relapsing Fever.	

By Special Orders of the Ministry of Health—

Tuberculosis (all forms)	Acute Poliomyelitis.	Puerperal Fever.
Cerebro Spinal Fever.	Ophthalmia Neonatorum	Acute Primary
Encephalitis Lethargica.	Malaria.	Pneumonia.
Acute Polioencephalitis.	Dysentery.	Acute Influenzal
		Pneumonia.

Intimations of other infectious diseases which are not compulsorily notifiable, such as Measles, Chickenpox, Whooping Cough, etc., are received from medical practitioners, head teachers and parents. Especially in the case of children when nursing or other assistance can be arranged through the Health Department, the sending of such intimations is encouraged.

With the exception of an increase in the number of cases of Scarlet Fever, there was no undue prevalence of any notifiable infectious disease during the year. All the cases notified, the ages of the patients, etc., are shown in the tables which follow.

Scarlet Fever.

Of the 118 cases of Scarlet Fever which were notified during the year, three were “ imported ” and one was a non-civilian case; 94 of the cases were removed to the Isolation Hospital and there was one death from the disease during the year.

The number of “ return ” cases of scarlet fever was greater than in recent years. The following summary gives some particulars and the intervals between the discharge from the Isolation Hospital of the infecting cases and the admission of the “ return ” cases :—

				“ Return case ” admitted.
P.W. (7), discharged 6-9-33				Mrs. W. (Mother) 12-9-33
(P.W. was isolated but after a month infected his brother, D.W. (3), and was re-admitted with D.W. to Hospital)				
P.B. (2) discharged 9-9-33				D.W. 7-10-33
M.W. (9) „ 29-11-33				R.B. (12) .. 14-9-33
R.C. (4) „ 15-11-33				J.L. (7) .. 4-12-33
(R.C. was re-admitted to Hospital on 24-11-33)				D.C. (3) .. 24-11-33
I.J. (9), discharged 28-12-33				A.J. (6) .. 6-1-34
A.M. (4) „ 6-9-33				Mrs. M. (mother) 16-9-33
E.S. (5) „ 16-12-33				Mrs. M. (mother) 1-1-34
B.W. (4) „ 3-1-33				V.W. (10) .. 4-2-33

In addition, a child, S.B. (6), a resident of a neighbouring Borough, who came to reside in Ramsgate five weeks after having been discharged from the Isolation Hospital, is believed to have infected D.B. (11), who was admitted on 10-10-33. The infecting case S.B. was re-admitted on 11-10-33.

Also, a case D.S. (9), discharged on 7-11-33, was believed to be the source of infection of his brother David (4), who was admitted to Hospital on 20-12-33.

Diphtheria.

Nine cases only were notified in 1933 as compared with 9 cases in 1932. These cases were removed to the Isolation Hospital. There was one death from this disease—a visitor who contracted the disease after arrival in the Borough.

Several “ carriers ” were detected and dealt with during the year.

Diphtheria Antitoxin.

Supplies of Diphtheria Antitoxin are kept at the Health Office, and issued to medical practitioners, who can also in emergency or at night-time obtain it at the Police Station, where a small stock is kept and replaced as required.

In 1933, a total of 16,000 units of Diphtheria Antitoxin were supplied to local medical practitioners, the total cost to the Council in respect of 8,000 units issued for use in cases in which it would not otherwise have been obtainable owing to necessitous circumstances, in accordance with the Diphtheria Antitoxin Order, 1910, was 7s. 11d.

The great importance of the administration of antitoxin as early as possible in the disease is continually being stressed in the Borough, and its immediate use by medical practitioners, before swabs are taken or case is admitted to the Isolation Hospital, is advocated.

Enteric Fever.

No case of Typhoid or Paratyphoid Fever was notified during the year.

Dysentery.

In September a large number of cases of enteritis, chiefly in children residing in different districts of the Borough, came under notice and were investigated. In many of the cases the symptoms were slight and corresponded to cases of diarrhoea often met with in this season of the year, but other cases were of a very acute nature with definite signs of toxæmia, as will be seen from the following summary in reference to one of the two cases which proved fatal.

The symptoms of the first case which came under notice, a male aged 3 years, led to a suspicion of food poisoning. This child, who had previously been in normal health, complained of thirst at 6.30 a.m. on 5th September, was given a drink of water, and at once vomited; abdominal pains, further vomiting and frequent diarrhoea followed; blood was observed in the stools in the afternoon. Cyanosis and unconsciousness supervened towards evening and the child died at 10 p.m. the same day. From material obtained from this case B. Dysenteriae (Sonne Type) were cultivated at the Pathological Laboratory of the Ministry of Health.

The other case which proved fatal (on 18th September), a male aged 3 years and 3 months, had somewhat similar symptoms, and from post-mortem material B. Dysenteriae (Flexner Type Z) were cultivated.

Extensive investigations were made regarding all foods and drink consumed and as to the existence of dysentery “ carriers,” but the results were negative.

Of the 28 cases which were notified as dysentery, seven were subsequently withdrawn, these cases having cleared up rapidly and negative results having been obtained from an examination of material submitted for bacteriological examination.

Pneumonia.

Only 48 cases of acute primary pneumonia or of acute influenzal pneumonia were notified during the year; of the 18 deaths caused by pneumonia, 4 were under one year of age; one was between one and two years of age; one was between two and three years; three were between 15 and 35 years; and nine were over 35 years.

Ophthalmia Neonatorum.

One case only was notified during the year and was treated at home; 10 visits were made by the Health Visitor to assist the mother in carrying out treatment ordered by the medical attendant.

Puerperal Fever and Puerperal Pyrexia.

Three cases of Puerperal Fever and three cases of Puerperal Pyrexia were notified during the year. These cases were admitted to the Isolation Hospital. Two of the cases of Puerperal Fever died in hospital.

Influenza and Other Non-Notifiable Diseases.

Influenza and catarrhal conditions were somewhat prevalent in the early months of the year and 15 deaths were attributed to Influenza.

Information as to the existence of cases of Measles, Chickenpox, Whooping Cough and Mumps is obtained chiefly through intimations sent by head teachers, and during the year 77 cases of Measles, 55 cases of Whooping Cough, 36 cases of Chickenpox and 5 cases of Mumps were intimated by head teachers on the special form provided for the purpose.

Notification of Tuberculosis.

Notification of cases of this disease is carried out in an increasingly satisfactory manner in this Borough; during the year there was only one death from Tuberculosis of a person who had not been notified during life.

Investigations were made as to the possible need for taking action under Article 3 of the P.H. (Prevention of Tuberculosis) Regulations, 1925, relating to tuberculous employes in the milk trade, but no ground for taking action was found.

No action was taken under Section 62 of the P.H. Act, 1925.

Smallpox and Vaccination.

No case of Smallpox occurred in the Borough. Eight persons who were contacts of cases in other districts and who came to the Borough were kept under observation.

In view of the steadily increasing number of cases of Smallpox in the country as a whole during recent years it is advisable to draw attention to the large proportion of persons in the Borough who are not protected by vaccination. In consequence of this, the introduction of the disease into the Borough might prove very serious and costly, and it is to be regretted that a great number of parents here, as elsewhere, can and do avail themselves of the proviso in the Vaccination Act of 1907 through which they are exempted from penalties on making a statutory declaration of conscientious objection to the vaccination of their children.

The Vaccination Officer for the district has kindly supplied me with the following particulars, which, as regards the number of children unvaccinated, must be considered most unsatisfactory.

Of 551 children born in the district, two were removed and 13 died unvaccinated. Particulars as to the remaining 536 children are as follows :—

Successfully vaccinated	..	..	..	..	255
Vaccination postponed	..	..	..	..	14
Certificates procured by Conscientious Objectors	..				265
Insusceptible to vaccination	..	..	..	..	2

From this it will be seen that 52 per cent. of these children were at the end of the year unprotected by vaccination, a similar figure to that for 1932.

The records as to the vaccinal condition of children examined during the year at routine medical inspections at the public elementary schools in the Borough show that of

497 "Entrants"	..	..	..	211 (42.45 per cent.)	were vaccinated
459 "Second Age Group"	..			214 (46.62 per cent.)	" "
514 "Third Age Group"	..			208 (40.46 per cent.)	" "

Disinfecting Station.

These premises are situated in Broad Street and are equipped with a Manlove Alliott Steam Disinfector and special vans, trucks, etc., for dealing with infected material.

Cleansing Station.

This is situated in St. Luke's Avenue in a portion of the yard of the Gas and Water Department.

It is equipped with a bath with geyser, lavatory basin, w.c., and a Manlove Alliott gas-heated disinfector for dealing with verminous clothing, etc.

Public Mortuary.

The construction and equipment of the new public mortuary in the grounds of Cavendish House, adjoining the new Police Station, was completed in 1929.

The building, its ventilation, the equipment of the post-mortem theatre, and the other three rooms, are in all respects up to date and approved by the Ministry of Health.

During the year the police placed in the Mortuary the bodies of 14 persons who had been killed by accident or had died from other causes.

NOTIFIABLE INFECTIOUS DISEASES, 1933.

Disease.	Total Cases Notified.	Cases admitted to Hospital.	AGE INCIDENCE.														Total Deaths.
			(Numbers in brackets indicate Deaths)														
			Under 1	1	2	3	4	5	10	15	20	35	45	65			
Diphtheria	9	9	—	—	—	2	1	1	2	1	1	1	—	—	18		
Scarlet Fever	118	94	—	1	2	4	9	55 (1)	24	13	8	2	—	—		1	
Pneumonia	48	21	4 (4)	3 (1)	3 (1)	1	3	3	3	4 (1)	4 (2)	4	12 (4)	4 (5)			
Erysipelas	8	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	1	5	1			
Puerperal Fever	3	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2 (2)	1	—	—		2	
Puerperal Pyrexia...	3	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	—	—	—			
Ophthalmia Neonatorum...	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—			
Acute Poliomyelitis ...	3	3	—	—	—	—	1	2	—	—	—	—	—	—			
Acute Polioencephalitis ...	1	1	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—			
Dysentery	21	10	—	3	1	4 (2)	2	6	1	—	1	—	3	1	2		
Total	215	144															23

TUBERCULOSIS.

Age-Periods.			New Cases.				Deaths.			
			Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary		Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary	
			M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
0			—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
1			—	—	1	—	—	—	—	1
5			—	1	2	2	—	—	—	—
10			1	—	2	—	—	—	—	—
15			1	—	—	1	1	—	—	2
20			3	5	2	—	3	2	—	—
25			3	6	—	2	2	1	1	1
35			3	5	1	—	1	2	—	—
45			1	1	—	—	3	1	—	—
55			5	—	—	—	3	2	—	—
65 and upwards			1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Total			18	18	8	5	13	8	1	5

OPHTHALMIA NEONATORUM.

Cases.			Vision un- impaired.	Vision impaired.	Total Blindness.	Deaths.
Notified.	Treated					
	At Home.	In Hospital.				
1	1	—	1	—	—	—

General Provision for Health Services for the Borough.*Public Health Officers of the Local Authority.*

There are no part-time officers on the staff of the Health Department and contributions under Public Health or Exchequer grants are made towards the salaries of the Medical Officer of Health, the Sanitary Inspectors and the Health Visitors.

The staff consists of—

One Medical Officer of Health, who is also School Medical Officer and Borough Bacteriologist.

One Senior Sanitary Inspector, who holds the Meat Inspectors' Certificate of the Royal Sanitary Institute and is Inspector under the Sale of Food and Drugs Acts and Officer under the Rats and Mice (Destruction) Act.

One Sanitary Inspector, who holds the Meat Inspector's Certificate of the Royal Sanitary Institute.

Four Health Visitors, two of whom, in addition to being trained Nurses, hold the Certificate of the Central Midwives Board.

Two Clerks.

Two Disinfectors.

Nursing Arrangements.

The Nurses employed by the Ramsgate and St. Lawrence District Nursing Association and the St. George's Parish Nurse carry out the general nursing of patients at their homes in the Borough.

In times of emergency these nurses are assisted in this work by members of the Ramsgate Nursing Division of the St. John Ambulance Brigade.

Home nursing of children suffering from minor infectious diseases, ophthalmia neonatorum, etc., is carried out by the Council's Health Visitors, and in the event of further assistance being required, as, for instance, during epidemics of measles, influenza, etc., an arrangement exists by which the Ramsgate and St. Lawrence Nursing Association has agreed to co-operate and provide nursing assistance in the homes for 50 cases in any year, a payment of 2s. 6d. to be made to the Association by the Town Council in respect of each case nursed at the request of the Medical Officer of Health.

Midwives.

The Midwives Acts, 1902-26, continue to be administered in the Borough by the Kent County Council. Representation was made in 1930 by the Town Council, under Sect. 62 (1) of the Local Government Act, 1929, for constitution as the Local Supervising Authority for the Borough under the Midwives Acts, but the Minister of Health having concluded that he would not be justified in making an order to this effect, and as, unfortunately, there is no provision in the Local Government Act, 1929, for an appeal against that decision, an important part of the work affecting the welfare of mothers and children in the Borough (for which the Town Council is responsible) continues to be supervised by an authority outside the Borough.

Ten midwives were practising in the Borough at the end of the year.

LABORATORY FACILITIES.

(a) Bacteriological Work.

All the ordinary bacteriological work required in the Borough is carried out by the Medical Officer of Health at the Borough Bacteriological Laboratory at the Health Office.

During the year 1933 the following specimens were examined and reported upon:—

	Total number examined	Number positive.
Swabs from Noses and Throats—		
as to the presence of Diphtheria Bacilli ..	357	33
Sputum—		
as to the presence of Tubercle Bacilli ..	71	11
Blood—		
as to Widal Reaction	1	—
Hairs—		
as to infection by Ringworm Fungus ..	11	10
Pus—		
as to the presence of Gonococci	1	—
Total ..	441	54

(b) Chemical Work.

A chemical analysis of water from the public supply is carried out each quarter by the Public Analyst. Periodical chemical and bacteriological examinations are also carried out by the Medical Officer of Health.

The source and consistent good quality of the constant water supply of the Borough has been referred to in detail in previous annual reports.

A sample of water taken in December, 1933, and submitted to chemical analysis at the South Eastern Analytical Laboratory, Canterbury, was reported on as follows:—

WATER ANALYSIS—BOROUGH OF RAMSGATE.

Description of Sample.			Parts per 100,000.		Grains per gallon.	
			“From Public Supply, Letter G.”			
Appearance	..	..	..	..	Clear	
Colour	..	..	..	..	Blue-green	
Smell	..	..	..	..	Normal	
Chlorine in Chlorides	..	..	..	..	22.30	15.61
Phosphoric Acid in Phosphates	..	..	..	..	None	
Nitrogen in Nitrates	..	..	..	..	1.16	0.81
Ammonia	..	..	..	..	None	
Albuminoid Ammonia	..	..	..	..	0.0016	0.0011
Oxygen absorbed in 15 minutes	..	..	..	..	Trace only	
Oxygen absorbed in 4 hours	..	..	..	..	0.030	0.021
Hardness before boiling (total)	..	..	..	..	35.7	24.99
Hardness after boiling (permanent)	..	..	..	..	13.3	9.31
Total solid matter	..	..	..	..	78.70	55.09
Microscopical Examination of Deposit	..	..	..	..	Slight & unimportant	
Chlorine as “Salt”	..	..	..	..	36.75	25.72

REMARKS.—The above results indicate water organically pure and free from sewage percolation.

The Microscopical Examination is also satisfactory.

The figures for “Chlorine,” “Hardness,” and “Total solid matter” are all distinctly lower than when this supply was examined last September.

(Signed) ERNEST M. HAWKINS,
Public Analyst, Borough of Ramsgate.

Legislation in Force.

List of Adoptive Acts, Bye-Laws, etc., in force in the Borough :—

ADOPTED ACTS.

Public Health Acts Amendment Act, 1890.
Public Health Acts Amendment Act, 1907.

BYE-LAWS AND REGULATIONS IN FORCE.

Common Lodging Houses (P.H. Act, 1875, Sect. 80).
Houses let in Lodgings (P.H. Act, 1875, Sect. 90).
Cleansing, etc., and Removal of Refuse (P.H. Act, 1875, Sect. 44).
Tents, Vans, Sheds, etc. (H.W.C. Act, 1885, Sect. 9 (2)).
Slaughter Houses (P.H. Act, 1875, Sect. 169).
Prevention of Nuisances (P.H. Act, 1875, Sect. 44).
Keeping of Animals (P.H. Act, 1875, Sect. 44).
Offensive Trades (P.H. Act, 1875, Sect. 113).
New Streets and Buildings (P.H. Act, 1875, Sect. 157; P.H. Act, 1890, Sect. 23).
Regulations under Dairies, Cowsheds and Milkshops Order, 1885.

PRIVATE ACT.

The Ramsgate Corporation Act, 1922.

The Pegwell Bay (Shellfish) Regulations.

These regulations were made by the Minister of Health and came into force on the 1st December, 1925, with a view to the control of the sale and distribution of cockles gathered from the beds at the mouth of the River Stour.

Section 3 of the Regulations states that

“A person shall not sell, distribute or offer for sale for human consumption any cockles taken from the prescribed area unless and until they have been subjected to a process of sterilisation by steaming under pressure for at least six minutes. The sterilisation shall be carried out either by a sanitary authority or in a manner approved by the medical officer of the district in which the cockles are landed.”

The Town Council's Shellfish Station having been discontinued, notice by advertisement in the local Press was given that vendors must themselves carry out the sterilisation of cockles by means of steam under pressure and in a manner to be approved by the Medical Officer of Health.

The Regulations provide that for the purpose and execution and enforcement the Ramsgate Corporation shall have concurrent jurisdiction with the Sanitary Authority in the district of the Sandwich Port Sanitary Authority, in the Urban District of Broadstairs and St. Peter's, and in such parts of the Borough of Sandwich and of the Rural Districts of Eastry and of the Isle of Thanet as are not included within the district of the Sandwich Port Sanitary Authority.

Hospitals.

The Ramsgate General Hospital, West Cliff Road, is a modern institution; additional accommodation was provided in 1925, when a new ward for children was opened and a new annexe for the Nursing Staff was completed in 1927. The new Maternity Ward, containing 20 beds was opened during 1931.

The accommodation at the Hospital in 1933 was as follows:—

General Medical—8 Beds for Men; 8 Beds for Women.
General Surgical—17 Beds for Men; 17 Beds for Women.
Private Wards—7 Beds for Men and Women.
Children's Ward (including Observation Ward)—24 beds.
Maternity Ward—20 Beds and Cots.

In addition to the medical and surgical wards there exist special departments for X-ray and dental work, and a masseuse is employed in connection with the orthopædic department.

The Hospital, which is supported chiefly by voluntary contributions, is for the treatment of the sick poor resident in the Borough and neighbouring districts and for disabled seamen of all nations brought to the Port of Ramsgate. The Honorary Staff consists of two Physicians, four Surgeons, two Anæsthetists and a Dental Surgeon. A resident House Surgeon is also employed.

The Hospital recently erected near the centre of the town in connection with the Convent of the Daughters of the Cross is used for delicate boys and for boys suffering from non-pulmonary tuberculosis. Most of the cases admitted to this Hospital are boys whose parents or guardians reside in districts in or near London.

The Infectious Diseases Hospitals for the Borough are those used in conjunction with other Local Authorities of the Isle of Thanet, and are situate at Haine, just outside the Borough boundary. There is accommodation for 54 cases of Scarlet Fever in two blocks, each containing 27 beds, one block for cases of Diphtheria, containing 14 beds. In addition there is considered to be accommodation in three huts for eight patients, four beds in a receiving block and the new cubicle block has eight beds.

The Smallpox Hospital is in the same neighbourhood on a separate site, and has two wards each containing eight beds.

The Thanet Institution, under the control of the Public Assistance Committee, is at Minster, some five miles from the centre of the Borough.

Maternity and Nursing Homes.

Since the repeal of the Midwives and Maternity Homes Act, 1926, under which the nursing and maternity homes in the Borough had been supervised by the Kent County Council, all powers and duties under the Act so far as the Borough is concerned have been administered by the Town Council.

One new application for registration was granted during 1933; the number of nursing homes on the register at the end of the year was nine of which eight were maternity homes.

Children and Young Persons Act, 1932.

As provided for in Section 2 (a) of the Local Government Act, 1929, the functions formerly discharged as regards the Borough by the Poor Law Authority under Part 1 of the Children Act, 1908, have been, as from the 1st April, 1930, discharged by the Town Council.

On 1st January, 1933, the Children and Young Persons Act, 1932, came into force, amending the provisions of the Children Act, 1908, and requiring notices to be sent by registered letter or by personal delivery in reference to infants under the age of nine years received for reward.

The four Health Visitors employed by the Council act as Infant Protection Visitors and during the year made 204 visits of inspection of children and as to the condition of and arrangements in the premises in which they are maintained.

At the end of the year 29 persons were maintaining for reward 36 children. Explanations of failure to send notices within the time specified in the Act were requested in 12 instances.

No legal proceedings for infringement of the Act were instituted during the year.

Maternal Mortality.

Maternal deaths are investigated and reported upon by the Medical Officer of Health. Three such deaths occurred in the Borough during the year 1933.

Institutional Provisions for Unmarried Mothers.

The Thanet Hostel for Unmarried Mothers at 55, Ashburnham Road, Ramsgate, was closed during 1932, and no alternative accommodation has yet been provided.

Ambulance Facilities.

For cases of infectious disease the Isle of Thanet Joint Hospital Board provide an up-to-date motor ambulance stationed at the Isolation Hospital.

For non-infectious and accident cases the motor ambulances and services of the Ramsgate Division of the St. John Ambulance Brigade are available.

Clinics and Treatment Centres.*Maternity and Child Welfare Centre.*

This is provided at commodious centrally situated premises, Curtis House, Princes Street, by the St. Lawrence Maternity Association and Mothercraft Club, working in co-ordination with the Town Council.

The Medical Officer for the Centre, a local medical practitioner, conducts clinics on these premises as follows :—

Ante-natal Clinics on second and fourth Wednesdays in each month.

Infant Consultation Clinics on Friday afternoons.

Consultation Clinics for children, aged 1 to 5 years, on first and third Wednesdays in each month.

The Ramsgate Creche, supported by voluntary contributions, is in Hereson Road.

School Clinics.

The School Inspection and Treatment Clinic is provided by the Local Education Authority at the Health Office, and is held on five mornings each week.

The special Treatment Clinics in connection with the School Medical Service are also conducted at the Health Office, and consist of an Ophthalmic Clinic, a Dental Clinic, and a Clinic at which Scalp Ringworm is treated by means of the Education Authority's X-ray installation.

By agreement with the Authorities of the Ramsgate General Hospital school children are admitted for operative treatment for nose and throat conditions and also for the extraction of teeth while under the influence of a general anæsthetic.

Tuberculosis Dispensary.

At Charlotte Cottage, Market Place, provided by the Kent County Council, and is open on Wednesday in each week throughout the year.

Veneral Diseases Treatment Centre.

This is provided by the Kent County Council for the Isle of Thanet at Eton House, St. Peter's Road, Margate, and Clinics for men and women are conducted on Saturdays.

Maternity and Child Welfare.

Notification of Births Act.

During the year 492 births were notified; of these 472 were live births and 20 were stillbirths; in addition, there were two live births which were not notified. Failure to notify births as required by the Act has now become infrequent in this Borough. In each instance of failure the attention of the party responsible is drawn to the omission and an explanation is requested.

Of the live births, doctors notified 162, midwives 293, doctors and midwives 17; thirteen of the stillbirths were notified by doctors, five by midwives and two by doctors and midwives. The number of births registered for the Borough during the year was 471, giving a birth rate of 14.00 per 1,000 as compared with a rate of 14.19 in 1932.

Scheme for the Provision of Maternity Beds.

On completion of the Maternity Ward at the Ramsgate General Hospital, which was opened in 1931, the Council entered into an arrangement securing maternity beds for women in necessitous circumstances. The scheme provides for the admission of complicated maternity cases, of cases in which home conditions are unsuitable for confinement, and of pre-natal cases with abnormalities.

Patients eligible for consideration under the scheme must be resident within the Borough, must produce a certificate from a registered medical practitioner as to the suitability of the case and must sign a form signifying agreement to make payment to the Council in accordance with the scale of fees in force on the date of admission.

During the year arrangements were made under the scheme for the admission of four maternity cases.

Work of the Health Visitors.

Each of the four Health Visitors employed by the Council carries out in the area assigned to her all the health visiting and school work required in that area. This arrangement has proved satisfactory and economical, rendering visits to a home by more than one Health Visitor unnecessary and also enabling each Nurse to become more familiar with the conditions of the families in her area.

The Health Visitors made 513 first visits to children under 1 year of age; 945 children under 1 year received a total of 2,818 visits. Children aged 1 to 5 years numbered 1,628, to whom 5,771 visits were made, and 255 visits were made to 150 expectant mothers. Except in cases in which visits are not indicated, efforts are made to visit all births which occur in the Borough. Mothers are always invited to attend with their infants at the Maternity and Infant Welfare Centres, at which two of the Council's Health Visitors attend on the days it is open.

Nursing assistance was rendered at the homes by the Health Visitors in 2 cases.

Maternity and Infant Welfare Centre.

Previous annual reports described the arrangements made by the Ramsgate and St. Lawrence Maternity Association, working in co-ordination with the Town Council, at their premises, Curtis House, Princes Street.

During the year 52 sessions were held at the Centre on Fridays, on each occasion an infant consultation clinic was conducted by the Medical Officer of the Centre, a local medical practitioner, the number of consultations was 1,201 in connection with 313 individual infants. A consultation clinic for children, aged 1 to 5 years, was also held, at which 189 individual children were seen by the Medical Officer. The total number of attendances of mothers at the centre was 2,239.

The arrangements in connection with the Ante-natal Clinic continued and 26 such clinics were held during the year. The number of women who attended and were examined during the year 1933 was 48, consisting of 13 primiparæ and 35 multiparæ.

Issue of Milk in Necessitous Cases.

Throughout the year arrangements were in force by which, after investigation as to financial circumstances, necessitous mothers are supplied with milk for themselves or for their infants. Mothers who were granted milk were, as a rule, certified at the Centre to be in need of it for themselves or for their infants, owing to health reasons, by the Medical Officer of the Centre; in other cases certificates were given by the Medical Officer of Health. The total cost to the Council during the year for fresh milk supplied was 5s. 3d.; no dried milk was issued during the year.

Infant Mortality.

This matter is referred to under Vital Statistics, and from the table it will be seen that more deaths were attributed to congenital malformations and premature birth than to any other causes, 13 out of a total of 28 deaths.

The Infant Mortality rate for 1933 was 59.44 per thousand births, as compared with a rate of 43.65 for 1932 and 56.45 for 1931, and with a rate of 64 for England and Wales in 1933.

Sanitary Circumstances of the District.

Public Water Supply.

The consistent good quality of the constant water supply for the Borough and neighbouring villages was maintained throughout the year. The source of the supply is rain, which falls on a large open and sparsely populated agricultural district, the soil of which is a light loam superimposed on the upper chalk strata. After filtration through this it penetrates to the deep chalk, in which it travels through fissures to adits and thence to the Pumping Station at Whitehall, which is situated in the northern outskirts of the Borough.

The adits are over a mile from the sea, and including that completed in 1926, measure practically three miles in length. Each adit is 8 feet in height and 6 feet in width, and thus constitute large underground reservoirs at a depth from the surface varying from 98 feet to over 160 feet.

From the Pumping Station the water is pumped to the high level water tower at Southwood, which is an enclosed reservoir 220 feet above sea level and approximately three-quarters of one mile distant. From this reservoir it is distributed by gravitation to all parts of the Borough and neighbouring villages in the Isle of Thanet, the highest point of elevation of which is 182 feet above sea level.

The quantity of water pumped during the year was 468,087,000 gallons, the average amount being 1,282,430 gallons per day. This is approximately 33.75 gallons daily per person.

The quantity and quality of this water remain for all practical purposes constant year after year, variation in the amount of rainfall rarely causing any diminution in the supply. Such a diminution did, however, occur over a short period at the height of the season in August, following very exceptional decrease in the rainfall, and the Town Council decided to extend the adits and thus secure increased supply and storage.

Chemical analysis of the supply has been referred to previously in this report, and the results of these analyses, as also of bacteriological examinations, show that the water is organically pure and free from contamination.

Being derived from chalk strata, the water has no plumbo-solvent action, and, as is usual in most of such waters, is somewhat hard; much of this hardness is of a "temporary" nature, being largely removed by boiling. It is well aerated and is very palatable.

Drainage and Sewerage.

The Borough has an efficient water carriage system which has the great advantage of simplicity, owing to the fact that the formation of the land rendered it possible to lay sewers so that the sewage flows freely by gravitation from all parts of the town to the sea. Pumping plants, tank sewers, etc., are consequently absent from the system. The sewers, which are ventilated and regularly flushed with water, unite near the Harbour and form the outfall sewer in which the sewage is conveyed to a point over 1,250 feet from the shore. This site was chosen for the outfall many years ago after extensive float experiments had proved that at whatever state of the tide the sewage may be there discharged it is carried by currents straight out to sea.

Closet Accommodation.

With the exception of a few isolated houses on the outskirts of the Borough, all houses are connected with the water carriage system, the soil pipes being ventilated and intercepting traps provided.

Water closets with flushing cisterns and connected with the water carriage system are provided for all houses, with the exception of 37; of these 24 are connected to cesspools, 2 are earth closets, 8 are pail closets and 3 are chemical closets.

Removal and Disposal of Refuse.

The Corporation collects refuse from all premises in the town; this is conveyed to the four-celled Horsfall Destructor in an outlying portion of the town. This work is carried out by the Works Department and the Borough Engineer has supplied information that 9,302 tons 3 cwt. 3 qrs. of refuse were collected and dealt with during the year, the average amount each month being 775 tons 3 cwt. 2 qrs. 14 lb. In addition, 3,162 loads of road sweepings and 802 loads of gully mud were collected.

During the year efforts to ensure that all premises shall have impermeable receptacles with movable covers for the deposition of refuse, in accordance with the Bye-Laws, were continued; inspections of 456 houses showed that only 188 had proper receptacles, and during the year 225 were provided on preliminary notices being served and 43 on statutory notices being served.

SANITARY INSPECTION OF THE DISTRICT.

The following tabular statement summarises the work carried out during the year by the Inspectors and has been prepared by Mr. E. Young, Sanitary Inspector. The necessary supervision of all work carried out under the various notices served, including some left over from the previous year, made considerable demands on the time of the Inspectors, and the following particulars show the large amount of labour involved in supervising the sanitary conditions of dwelling-houses and other premises in the Borough.

INSPECTIONS.

Under Public Health Acts and other Acts, Regulations and Orders	6,318
Of Houses, number inspected under H.T.P. Acts, etc.	435
Complaints received and investigated	458
Inspections of drainage systems and subsequent revisits	1,087
Drains tested	351
In connection with infectious diseases	213
Of Bakehouses	64
—Cowsheds	39
—Common Lodging Houses	29
—Caravans	3
—Fish Fryers	71
—Food Shops	249
—Factories, Workshops and Workplaces	187
—Houses Let in Lodgings	228
—Ice Cream Vendors	61
—Marine Stores, etc.	6
—Milkshops and Dairies	119
—Merchandise Marks Act	116
—Outworkers	16
—Overcrowding	12
—Premises licensed for music and dancing	58
—Premises as to provision of refuse receptacles	807
—Premises with reference to rat infestation	41
—Repairs and subsequent visits	269
—Restaurants	32
—Schools	11
—Shipping	8
—Slaughter-houses	1,018
—Stables	23
—Tuberculosis cases	71
—Verminous premises	29
—Miscellaneous	161

NOTICES SERVED, ETC.

Statutory Notices served	3
Preliminary Notices served or Letters written	274
Nuisances abated on Notice or Letter	241
Nuisances abated on Verbal Instructions	268
Complaints received and investigated	458

COMPLAINTS OF NUISANCES RECEIVED DURING THE YEAR.

A record of all complaints is kept at the Health Office and during the year 458 complaints were received. Of these :

11 were referred to the Borough Surveyor's Department :—

Offensive road gullies and choked sewers	6
Dangerous buildings	2
Erection of buildings contrary to Bye-Laws	3

3 were referred to the Gas Engineer :—

Escape of gas into dwelling-houses	3
--	---

The remaining 444 may be roughly classified as follows :—

Choked drains	29
Smells from drains	10
Refuse dumped	12
Unsound articles of food	58
Dirty houses	7
Damp houses	21
Defective drains and water closets	161
Overcrowding	5
Defective and insufficient water supply	10
Accumulation of manure	10
Defective guttering	3
Rats on premises	15
Leaky roofs	16
Defective stoves, cooking ranges and coppers	10
Improper keeping of animals	15
Offensive refuse receptacles	16
Broken floors and yard surfaces	10
Smoke from chimneys	2
Verminous premises	12
Miscellaneous	22

All nuisances discovered during the year were abated upon service of informal or statutory notices, no legal proceedings being necessary.

WORK DONE IN CONNECTION WITH DRAINAGE AND HOUSING.

The following defects were remedied and improvements carried out :—

Accumulations of refuse, etc, removed	3
Cesspools or underground rainwater tanks abolished	8
Chimney stacks and flues repaired	1
Choked drains cleared	25
Coppers, stoves and ranges renewed or repaired	25
Dampness in walls abated	3
Drainage (entire new systems)	47
Drains repaired or partly relaid	98
Floors re-laid or repaired	19
Flushing cisterns repaired	5
Flushing cisterns provided	26
Food storage provided	9
Fresh air inlet valves renewed or repaired	39
Gully traps fixed	115
Inspection chambers built, chambers rendered, and new covers provided	107
Pedestal closets, closet basins and traps fixed	239
Roofs repaired	44

Rooms cleansed	14
Rainwater pipes or gutters repaired or renewed	26
Rainwater pipes disconnected from the drain	3
Sinks and baths provided	93
Sink wastepipes renewed and trapped	102
Sashcords and window frames renewed	37
Soil and ventilating pipes renewed or repaired	82
Water closets and urinals erected	33
Walls and ceilings repaired	35
Yards paved or existing paving repaired	81
Miscellaneous defects remedied	49

With Respect to Refuse Receptacles.

Houses inspected	456
Number found with suitable receptacles	188
Number found without suitable receptacles	268
Number provided on preliminary notice	225
Number provided on statutory notice	43
Number supplied by Local Authority	Nil

With Respect to Overcrowding.

Rooms measured as to overcrowding	19
Overcrowding abated	3

With Respect to Dirty Houses.

Houses cleansed	10
Rooms cleansed	14
Dirty W.C. basins cleansed	20
Filthy beds or mattresses destroyed	4

With Respect to Water Supply.

Corroded water service pipes renewed to houses	18
Water service pipes repaired	2

With Respect to Keeping of Animals.

Removal of animals improperly kept	5
Stable yard and paving repaired	1
Stables cleansed and limewashed	4
Notices, letters or verbal instructions re removal of manure	10

With Respect to Schools.

Sanitary conveniences inspected	11
Nuisances remedied	5

DISINFECTION.

In connection with cases of Infectious Disease (158) which were removed to the Isle of Thanet Isolation Hospital Haine, or isolated at home, and other diseases and conditions, the following work was carried out :—

Disease or Cause.	Number of Rooms.
Scarlet Fever	122
Diphtheria	15
Dysentery	38
Phthisis	48
Cancer	10
Vermin	14
Other Causes	24
	271

Also 412 sets of bedding, clothing, etc., were removed from houses, disinfected at the station and returned. The Corporation's Disinfecting Station, in which is installed a Manlove Alliott Steam Disinfector, is situated in Broad Street, and all articles removed for disinfection are conveyed to it in a special covered van.

PREMISES AND OCCUPATIONS CONTROLLED BY BYE-LAWS AND REGULATIONS.

Common Lodging Houses.

The number of Common Lodging Houses on the register is three, all situate and adjoining each other in Central Road. The premises have been kept under supervision during the year and 29 visits of inspection were made. The houses were kept in a clean and satisfactory condition and well conducted; four defects discovered were remedied.

Houses Let in Lodgings.

There were 35 of these houses on the register during 1933, to which 228 visits of inspection were made. No proceedings under the bye-laws were found necessary, and 11 defects discovered were remedied.

Slaughter Houses.

There are seven private slaughter-houses in the Borough; of these six are registered and one is licensed.

The Sanitary Inspectors made 1,018 inspections of these premises during the year. These inspections coincided with meat inspections made under the Public Health (Meat) Regulations. The premises were kept in a satisfactory condition and no occasion arose for any action under the Regulations or Bye-Laws.

The position of some of these registered slaughter-houses is most undesirable, being situated in congested areas and directly abutting on to private dwelling houses; the total abolition of these slaughter-houses would appear to be the only remedy for the unsatisfactory conditions now existing.

Offensive Trades.

The number of offensive trades carried on during the year in the Borough was 27, as follows :—

	Premises.	Inspections.
Fish Fryers	19	71
Marine Store Dealers ...	6	6
Fat Melters and Bone Boilers	2	6

The premises were kept in a satisfactory condition. Minor defects discovered at visits of inspection were remedied promptly. All the fried fish shops in the Borough are fitted with modern fish-frying ranges. During the year the Council granted one new licence to establish the trade of a rag dealer.

*Other Sanitary Conditions.**Sanitary Condition of Theatres, Music Halls, etc.*

The places of public amusement licensed for public music and dancing in the Borough number 45 and may be classified as follows :—

Cinemas and Music Halls	...	...	...	4
Theatres	...	...	...	2
Halls (religious denominations and others)	...	...	...	12
Hotels and Restaurants	...	...	...	14
Miscellaneous	...	...	...	13

These were periodically visited by the Sanitary Inspector during the year and the conditions generally found to be satisfactory. "Kata" thermometer readings were taken in the theatres and cinemas. The Sanitary Inspector furnishes a report to the Licensing Justices at the Annual Licensing Meeting as to the sanitary condition, etc., prevailing on the premises, and the report is taken into consideration by them before renewing the licences.

Several minor sanitary defects discovered were remedied upon attention being called to them. One cinema was renovated.

Rats and Mice (Destruction) Act, 1919.

A considerable amount of work in connection with the destruction of rats and mice was carried out during the year and 41 inspections of premises were made. During "Rat Week" the usual campaign was undertaken; advertisements were inserted and articles published in the two local newspapers calling the attention of the public to their responsibilities under the Act. The proprietors of three cinemas displayed notices at each performance during the week calling the attention of the public to "Rat Week." A large number of poison baits were laid in the sewer headings and special attention was given to premises likely to be harbouring rats and mice, in particular the Corporation's refuse dump on the Margate Road. There is no doubt that a large number of rats were destroyed during the campaign. There is every indication that these rodents are much less numerous in the Borough than formerly.

FACTORY AND WORKSHOPS ACT, 1901.

Annual Report of the Medical Officer of Health for the year 1933 for the Borough of Ramsgate, on the administration of the Factory and Workshops Act, 1901, in connection with Factories, Workshops, Workplaces and Homework.

TABLE I.

INSPECTION OF FACTORIES, WORKSHOPS AND WORKPLACES.

Premises.	No of Inspections	No. of Written Notices.	Prosecutions
Factories : (including Factory Laundries) ...	31	3	—
Workshops : (including Workshop Laundries)	120	12	—
Workplaces : (other than Outworkers' premises included in Part 3 of this Report)	36	13	—
Total ...	187	28	—

TABLE II.

DEFECTS FOUND IN FACTORIES, WORKSHOPS AND WORKPLACES.

Particulars.	Number of Defects.	
	Found.	Remedied.
Nuisances under the Public Health Act :—		
Want of Cleanliness	3	3
Want of Ventilation	1	1
Overcrowding	—	—
Want of Drainage to Floors	—	—
Other Nuisances	5	5
Sanitary Accommodation	Insufficient	3
	Unsuitable or Defective	6
	Not Separate for Sexes	—
Offences under the Factory and Workshop Act :		
Illegal Occupation of Underground Bake-house	—	—
Breach of Special Sanitary Requirements for Bakehouses	8	8
Other Offences	2	2
Total	28	28

TABLE III.

HOMEWORK.

Outworkers' Lists. Section 107.						
NATURE OF WORK.	Lists received from Employers.					
	Sending twice in a year			Sending once in a year.		
	Lists.	Outworkers.		Lists.	Outworkers.	
		Con-tractors.	Work-men.		Contractors	Workmen
Making Wearing Apparel	16	—	16	8	—	8
Furniture and Upholstery	—	—	—	—	—	—
Other Trades	6	2	6	3	1	3
Total	22	2	22	11	1	11
Notices served on Occupiers as to keeping or sending lists :—						
Making Wearing Apparel	—					
Furniture and Upholstery	—					
Total	—					

TABLE IV.

REGISTERED WORKSHOPS.

Workshops on the Register (s. 131) at the end of the year.	Number.
Bakehouses	39
Dressmakers and Milliners	5
Tailors and Bootmakers	16
Laundries	1
Building Trade	22
Upholsterers	6
Engineers and Whitesmiths	7
Restaurant Kitchens	50
Miscellaneous	34
Total	180

TABLE V.

OTHER MATTERS.

Class.	Number.
Matters notified to H.M. Inspector of Factories :	
Failure to affix Abstract of the Factory and Workshop Act	—
Action taken in matters referred by H.M. Inspector of Factories as remediable under the Public Health Acts, but not under the Factory and Workshops Acts :—	
Notified by H.M. Inspector	3
Reports (of action taken) sent to H.M. Inspector	1
Other	—
Underground Bakehouses :—	
Certificates granted during the year	—
In use at the end of the year	4

Bakehouses.

The numbed of Bakehouses in the Borough and on the Register at the end of the year was 39, and of these only 4 are underground bakehouses. The number of notices served and verbal notices given in connection with bakehouses during the year was 10, and 64 inspections were made. The notices served were 8 as to limewashing and 2 as to defective w.c.'s.

These defects were in each case remedied.

Rag Flock Acts, 1911 and 1928.

No action was found to be necessary under these Acts during 1933.

Sanitation of Schools.

The sanitary condition, water supply, etc., of all the public elementary schools in the Borough is dealt with in the report on the School Medical Service. Three only of the ten public elementary schools are provided by the Local Education Authority. In September the new Dame Janet School for Junior Mixed and Infants was opened, and details of the accommodation, equipment, etc., at this school, will be found in the report on the School Medical Service.

The equipment and general sanitary condition of the three provided schools, of the newly-constructed St. Augustine's Roman Catholic School (opened April, 1929) and two other recently reconstructed schools are satisfactory, but although improvements have been made in recent years as regards the sanitation of the other non-provided schools, their faulty design and the unsuitable situation of some of them leave much to be desired.

Action taken to prevent the spread of infectious disease is also referred to in the report on the School Medical Service, and no difficulty arises in co-ordinating the public health administrative work with the school medical work, the Medical Officer of Health being also the School Medical Officer.

Port Sanitary Administration.

TABLE A.

Amount of Shipping entering the Port during the year 1933.

		Number	Tonnage	Number inspected.		Number reported to be defective	Number of vessels on which defects were remedied	Number of vessels reported as having, or having had, during the voyage, infectious disease on board.
				By the Medical Officer of Health.	By the Sanitary Inspector			
Foreign	Steamers	11	3071	—	4	1	1	—
	*Motor ...	168	2538	—	2	—	—	—
	Sailing ...	2	9	—	—	—	—	—
	Fishing...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Total Foreign ...		181	5618	—	6	1	1	—
Coastwise	Steamers ...	279	92498	—	2	—	—	—
	*Motors ...	432	4684	—	—	—	—	—
	Sailing ...	43	2549	—	—	—	—	—
	Fishing ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Total Coastwise ...		754	99731	—	2	—	—	—
Total Foreign and Coastwise ...		935	105349	—	8	1	1	—

II.—CHARACTER OF TRADE OF PORT.

TABLE B.

(a) Passenger traffic during the year.

This is limited to short coastal trips during the summer months.

(b) Cargo traffic.

The imports from foreign ports consist chiefly of timber and bricks; coal is imported from the Tyne, wheat reshipped from the London Docks and bricks from Sittingbourne. A large number of the entries is in connection with the important fishing industry based at the Port of Ramsgate.

(c) Foreign Ports from which vessels arrive.

Mainly from ports in Sweden, Norway and Finland. During 1933 vessels arrived from Skoghall, Karlholm, Rafso, Trangsund, Karlstad and Luvia.

III.—SOURCE OF WATER SUPPLY.

The constant water supply of the Borough is available for the port and for shipping. No water boats are in use.

IV.—PORT SANITARY REGULATIONS, 1933.

1. Declarations of health are obtained by the Preventive Officer of H.M. Customs and Excise, and forwarded immediately to the Port Medical Officer of Health.
2. All vessels on arrival are boarded by the Customs Officers.
3. Vessels which enter Ramsgate Harbour have hitherto not been equipped with wireless transmitting apparatus.
4. Proposals as to Mooring Stations were submitted by the Port Medical Officer of Health and correspondence with the Harbour Master and Ministry of Health had taken place, but at the end of the year the matter had not been finally decided.
5. There are no standing exemptions from the provisions of Article 14.
6. In the event of any vessel arriving with infectious disease or suspected infectious disease on board, no person would be allowed to board or leave the vessel without the permission of the Medical Officer.
7.
 - (a) No premises or waiting rooms are available for medical examination.
 - (b) Facilities for the cleansing and disinfecting of verminous persons and their belongings exist at the Council's Disinfecting and Cleansing Stations. Any fumigation found to be necessary in a ship after infectious disease would be carried out by the Health Department.
 - (c) No premises are available for the temporary accommodation of persons for whom such accommodation is required for the purposes of the Regulations.

- (d) The Infectious Diseases Hospitals for the Borough are available, if required.
 - (e) The existing ambulance facilities for the Borough are available.
 - (f) Any contacts would remain under the supervision of the Medical Officer.
8. No special arrangements have been made; if necessary, examination would be made at the County Laboratory, Maidstone.
 9. The arrangements made and facilities available in the Borough would apply.
 10. Information as to the facilities available for the diagnosis and treatment of Venereal Disease is given by means of posters displayed at various places in the Harbour and by means of leaflets handed to the crews.
 11. No special arrangements made.

TABLE C.

No case of infectious sickness was landed from any vessel during the year.

TABLE D.

No case of infectious sickness occurred during the voyage on any vessel which arrived at the port during the year.

V.—MEASURES AGAINST RODENTS.

Owing to the work of extermination carried out in previous years the presence of rats was not evident. Traps are regularly laid at various places in the Harbour, but only occasionally are rats caught.

TABLE E AND TABLE F.

Rats destroyed in 1933 ...	...	...	...	...	Nil
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TABLE G.

Vessels "infected" or "suspected" from infected ports ...	Nil
Vessels subjected to measures of rat destruction ...	Nil

VI.—HYGIENE OF CREWS SPACES.

TABLE J.

During the year the only defect discovered was a dirty w.c. pan in a Latvian vessel; this was remedied upon attention being called to it.

VII.—FOOD INSPECTION.

1. No food is imported into the Borough by means of vessels entering the Harbour.
2. The cockle beds at Pegwell Bay are known to be polluted and the Pegwell Bay (Shellfish) Regulations were made by the Minister of Health and came into force on 1st December, 1925, with a view to the control of the sale and distribution of cockles gathered from these beds.

Section 3 of the Regulations states that

"A person shall not sell, distribute or offer for sale for human consumption any cockles taken from the prescribed area unless and until they have been subjected to a process of sterilisation by steaming under pressure for at least six minutes. The sterilisation shall be carried out either by a sanitary authority or in a manner approved by the medical officer of the district in which the cockles are landed."

3. In connection with Port Sanitary Administration, no samples of food were taken during the year.

HOUSING STATISTICS.

1,—Inspection of Dwelling-houses during the year :—

(1) (a) Total number of dwelling-houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health and Housing Acts)	318
(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose ...	704
(2) (a) Number of dwelling-houses (included under sub-head (1) above) which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations, 1925	181
(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose ...	435
(3) Number of dwelling-houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation	*112
(4) Number of dwelling-houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-head) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation ...	134

2.—Remedy of Defects during the year without service of Formal Notices :—

Number of defective dwelling-houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their officers	217
--	-----

3.—Action under Statutory Powers during the year :—

A.—Proceedings under sections 17, 18 and 23 of the Housing Act, 1930 :

(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs	Nil
(2) Number of dwelling-houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices :	
(a) By owners	Nil
(b) By Local Authority in default of owners ...	Nil

B.—Proceedings under Public Health Acts :

(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied ...	281
(2) Number of dwelling-houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices :	
(a) By owners	Nil
(b) By Local Authority in default of owners ...	Nil

C.—Proceedings under sections 19 and 21 of the Housing Act, 1930 :

(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made	†19
(2) Number of dwelling-houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders	‡19

D.—Proceedings under section 20 of the Housing Act, 1930 :

(1) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were made ...	Nil
(2) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were determined, the tenement or room having been rendered fit ...	Nil

* As represented under the five-year programme.

† Including five for demolition in 1934.

‡ Including five carried forward from the previous year.

Housing Conditions.

During the year orders in reference to three Clearance Areas were confirmed by the Ministry of Health; at the end of the year the houses in two of these areas had been demolished and those in the other area were in the course of demolition.

A total of 19 houses were demolished and the number of new houses built during the year was—12 by the Local Authority and 180 by others.

There still exists a demand for the smaller type of house at low rental. Difficulties still arise in connection with older houses in the Borough being let to two or more tenants, the alterations required to render them suitable for such occupancy not having always been carried out by the owners.

Food.*Milk Supply.*

The number of cowsheds, dairies and milkshops on the register at the end of the year was as follows :—

COWKEEPERS.

Number on Register	...	...	...	4
Number of cows	...	...	...	98
Notices served on occupiers	...	...	...	6
Inspections	...	...	...	39

DAIRIES.

Number on Register	...	...	...	30
Notices served on occupiers	...	...	...	9
Inspections	...	...	...	37

MILKSHOPS AND PURVEYORS.

Number on Register	...	...	...	53
Notices served on occupiers	...	...	...	11
Inspections	...	...	...	82

Eleven applications for permission to sell milk in the Borough were received (2 Dairy and 9 Purveyors). All the applications were granted.

Under the Milk (Special Designations) Order, 1923, the number of licences granted to retailers are as follows :—

Dealers' Licences to sell " Certified " Milk	...	3
Dealers' Licences to sell " Grade A " Milk	...	1
Supplementary Licence to sell " Grade A "		
Tuberculin tested		2

Meat and Other Foods.

Considerable time is devoted each week by the Sanitary Inspectors to inspecting as far as possible all carcasses killed in the seven private slaughter-houses in the Borough, but supervision is rendered difficult owing to butchers being free to kill at any hour or on any day they desire provided due notice is given. Through an insurance scheme the butchers are covered against loss when carcasses or organs are condemned.

There are three Depots for the wholesale distribution of imported meat in the Borough, and from these large quantities are supplied to towns in the Isle of Thanet and the surrounding country.

The improved conditions of transport, conveyance, storage and handling of meat brought about by the requirements of the Public Health (Meat) Regulations have been well maintained.

365 visits of inspection to the meat depots, retail butchers and grocers' shops were made to see that the Regulations were carried out. Occasional visits are made to the Fish Market regarding the condition of the fish exposed for sale.

Other premises concerned with food, such as the kitchens of restaurants, greengrocers' shops, toffee apple and meat pie vendors, etc., are also kept under supervision. Three premises were entirely redrained.

Ice Cream, etc.

A considerable trade is carried on during the summer months by vendors of ice cream from stalls and barrows on the sands and other places in the Borough. The fact that there is no legal obligation for these persons or their premises on which the ice cream is manufactured to be licensed or registered renders it most difficult to control this trade. Under the Ramsgate Corporation Act, 1922, every dealer in ice cream selling from any cart, barrow or other vehicle or stand is required to have his name and address inscribed thereon, and is liable to a penalty of 40s. for non-compliance. Owing to there being no legal standard for ice cream, a large quantity of the article sold as such is very inferior in quality. Considerable time is occupied by the Sanitary Inspectors in supervising the streets and sands vendors, the cleanliness of their barrows and utensils not always being all that is desirable.

Number of Ice Cream Vendors selling from barrows, stalls, etc.		19
Number of Vendors at shops, restaurants, etc.	...	30
Number of inspections made		61

Merchandise Marks Act, 1926.

The Senior Sanitary Inspector is the officer appointed under the Merchandise Marks Acts, 1887-1926, and is authorised to execute the provisions of Section 9 of the Act of 1926 relating to any imported foodstuffs to which an Order in Council under the Acts applies.

The chief imported foodstuffs to which these Orders apply are " Fresh Apples," " Honey," " Eggs," " Currants, Sultanas and Raisins," " Raw Tomatoes," " Frozen Salmon or Sea Trout," and " Butter." All these articles when exposed for sale by retail must bear a label clearly indicating the origin, *i.e.*, " Empire," " Foreign," or the name of the " Colony " or " Country."

During the year 116 inspections were made to retail fruiterers, greengrocers, grocers and other shops dealing in these goods. Though there was an improvement in the carrying out of the Orders, it was necessary to give several warnings as to the need for strictly complying with same.

UNSOUND FOOD
VOLUNTARILY SURRENDERED DURING 1933.
CARCASSES CONDEMNED FOR TUBERCULOSIS.

Animals Affected.	Number of Carcases with all internal organs condemned.	Number of animals of which parts of Carcases and all organs were condemned.	Number of animals of which heads and tongues only were condemned.	Weight. Total weight in lbs.
Cows...	*7	—	18	3973
Pigs ...	4	—	91	1438
Calf ...	1	—	—	120
				5531

* Includes 5 cows dealt with under Tuberculosis Order, 1925.

FOOD CONDEMNED FOR OTHER REASONS.

Beef.

72 Livers	Fluke, cirrhosis and tuberculosis	965 lbs.
1 Tongue	Actinomycosis	7 lbs.
11 Plucks	Tuberculosis & Pneumonia	159 lbs.
Mesenteric, Fats, etc.	Tuberculosis	59 lbs.

Beef, Imported.

Hind and Forequarters	Unwholesome	272 lbs.
Fillets	Unsound	120 lbs.
Livers	Unsound	24 lbs.

Pork.

12 Carcases	Erysipelas	666 lbs.
117 Livers	Cirrhosis	504 lbs.
61 Plucks	Tuberculosis & Pneumonia	421 lbs.
38 Mesenteric Fats	Tuberculosis	48 lbs.

Mutton.

16 Livers	Flukes and Abscesses ..	56 lbs.
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Mutton, Imported.

6 Lambs	..	..	..	..	..	Unsound	..	..	..	..	217 lbs.
Loins, legs, etc.	..	..	..	..	..	Unsound	..	..	..	..	117 lbs.
Lambs livers	..	..	..	..	..	Unsound	..	..	..	..	95 lbs.

Fish.

Wet	..	..	..	..	..	Unsound	..	..	..	..	2,796 lbs.
Dried	..	..	..	..	..	Unsound	..	..	..	..	1,346 lbs.

Miscellaneous.

177 Eggs (imported)	..	..	..	..	..	Unsound	..	..	..	..	24 lbs.
80 Rabbits (imported)	..	..	..	..	..	Unsound	..	..	..	..	180 lbs.
70 Rabbits (English)	..	..	..	..	..	Unsound	..	..	..	..	130 lbs.
24 Chickens	..	..	..	..	..	Unsound	..	..	..	..	81 lbs.
2 Ducks	..	..	..	..	..	Unsound	..	..	..	..	10 lbs.
Prawns (imported)	..	..	..	..	..	Unsound	..	..	..	..	253 lbs.
Shrimps	..	..	..	..	..	Unsound	..	..	..	..	56 lbs.

Total weight of all food condemned .. 6 tons 6 cwt. 0 qrs. 25 lbs.

FOOD AND DRUGS (ADULTERATION) ACT, 1928.

During the year 109 Samples ((76 Formal and 33 Informal) were taken by the Senior Sanitary Inspector, who is the Officer appointed under the Act, and submitted for analysis to the Public Analyst.

Description of Sample.	Formal	Informal	Genuine	Not Genuine
Milk	58	—	50	8
Milk (separated)	1	—	1	—
Margarine	3	3	4	2
Butter	5	—	5	—
Sausages	3	—	3	—
Cream	—	6	6	—
Self-raising flour	5	—	5	—
Cocoa	—	4	4	—
Cornflour	—	4	4	—
Coffee extract ..	—	4	4	—
Rice	—	4	4	—
Lard	—	3	3	—
Dried fruit	4	—	4	—
*Citrolene	2	—	2	—

* Citrolene samples were taken at the request of the Ministry of Health.

The Public Analyst’s reports on the 59 samples of Milk taken during different months of the year show the average to be above the recognised minimum standard.

The average figures are : Fat, 3.29; Non-fatty Solids, 8.80; Total Solids, 12.09.

Particulars of the 10 samples reported by the Public Analyst to be not genuine and action taken in regard to each of these samples :—

Identification No. of Sample	Article.	Result of Analysis.	Action Taken	Result.
88	Milk	38% deficient in fat.	Legal proceedings.	Fined £2.
89	Milk	17% deficient in fat.	Legal proceedings.	Dismissed. Technical fault in service of summons.
92	Milk	4% deficient in fat.	Vendor cautioned.	
99	Milk	4% deficient in fat.	Vendor cautioned.	
105	Milk	5.6% deficient in fat.	Vendor cautioned.	
112	Milk	6% deficient in fat.	Vendor cautioned.	
114	Milk	6% added water.	Vendor cautioned.	
119	Milk	4% added water.	Vendor cautioned.	
151	Margarine	1.8% of water in access.	Vendor cautioned.	
153	Margarine	1% of water in access.	Vendor cautioned.	

PUBLIC HEALTH (PRESERVATIVES, ETC., IN FOOD) REGULATIONS.

The following 91 samples were taken under the provisions of the Food and Drugs (Adulteration) Act and were examined by the Public Analyst for the presence of preservatives and added colouring matter :

Milk	...	...	...	...	59
Butter	...	...	...	...	5
Margarine	...	...	...	...	6
Sausage Meat	...	...	...	...	3
Cream	...	...	...	...	6
Cornflour	...	...	...	...	4
Coffee Extract	...	...	...	...	4
Dried Fruits	...	...	...	...	4

All these samples were certified by the Public Analyst to be free from preservatives and the milk to be free from added colouring matter.

BOROUGH OF RAMSGATE.



ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

School Medical Officer

FOR THE YEAR

1933.

—

W. J. BANNISTER, M.D., B.S., B.A.O. D.P.H.

SCHOOL MEDICAL STAFF.

Ophthalmic Surgeon:

W. W. GRIFFIN, M.B., B.Ch., F.R.C.S. (Eng.).

Routine Medical Inspection and X-Ray Treatment of Ringworm:

B. H. PALMER, M.A., M.B., B.Ch. (Camb.), M.R.C.S. (Eng.),
L.R.C.P. (Lond.).

Operative Treatment of Tonsils and Adenoids:

The Hon. Surgeons of the Ramsgate General Hospital.

Dental Surgeon:

J. B. REED, L.D.S., R.C.S. (Eng.).

Health Visitors:

*Miss G. CLARK.

Miss A. ASHWELL.

*Miss W. CARPENTER.

Miss R. HOWELLS.

* Certificated Midwife, Central Midwives Board.

Clerks:

S. GORHAM.

C. IMPETT.

School Medical Officer and Medical Officer of Health:

W. J. BANNISTER, M.D., B.S., B.A.O. (Q.U. Belf.), D.P.H. (Lond.).

ANNUAL REPORT

ON THE

School Medical Service

For the Year ended 31st December, 1933.

1. Staff.

The whole-time officers on the staff of the School Medical Service are the School Medical Officer, who is also the Medical Officer of Health, and four Health Visitors; two Clerks devote one-half of their time to clerical work in connection with the service. The re-arrangement of the work of the Health Visitors, who devote one-half of their time to the School Medical Service, by which each Nurse carries out in the area assigned to her all the health visiting and school work required in that area, has worked satisfactorily during the year. It has proved to be an economical arrangement, rendering visits to a home by more than one nurse unnecessary and enabling each nurse to become familiar with the condition of the families in her area.

2. Co-ordination.

(a) *Infant and Child Welfare.*

The Clinics at the Maternity Centre are attended by the Health Visitors, who thus know many of the children from birth till the time they reach school age, and the medical records kept at the Infant Welfare Centres in due course are filed with and supplement records of routine medical inspections at the schools.

(b) *Care of Debilitated Children under School Age.*

As Medical Officer of Health, the School Medical Officer administers the infant welfare scheme on behalf of the Maternity and Child Welfare Committee of the Council, and each Health Visitor follows up each child born in the area in which she works and reports on debilitated children under school age in the homes visited, steps being taken to have such children dealt with at the Infant Clinic or other arrangements made as indicated.

THE SCHOOL MEDICAL SERVICE IN RELATION TO PUBLIC ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS.

3. School Hygiene.

In the report on the school medical service for the year 1926, a detailed report on the hygienic condition of each public elementary school in the Borough was given.

During the year eighty dual locker desks were supplied for Ellington School.

In September, the new Dame Janet School for Junior Mixed and Infants was opened with accommodation for 400 Juniors and 240 Infants. This School occupies a site of about three acres, has a south-east aspect, the single story buildings being of the semi-open-air type arranged in two spacious quadrangles with the administrative block and main hall in the centre. The classroom windows open over

their full extent and have hopper inlets, while the inner walls are fitted with folding doors along the whole of the length beneath covered verandas.

The heating throughout, including pipes beneath coat racks, is by accelerated low pressure hot-water system, and lighting is by electricity. The floors of classrooms and halls are of pitch pine blocks, while those of the cloakrooms and lavatories are paved with non-slip granolithic, these latter having white glazed brick dados.

Six modern drinking fountains are installed. The school furniture is of oak, the infant department having 125 dual tables and 250 tubular steel frame chairs, and the junior mixed department having 100 dual locker desks with curved back rail and spinal supports, 100 dual table desks and 200 tubular steel frame chairs.

The Managers of Christ Church School, having given notice of their intention to close the Infant Department, the Education Committee has purchased the Priory Road site and premises and are adding two classrooms to the existing building, thus providing an infant Council School affording accommodation for 200 infants. Arrangements are being made to open the school in September, 1934.

The accommodation at the Public Elementary Schools in the Borough is for 5,220 children; the average number on the registers for the twelve months ended 31st December, 1933, was 4,774, and the average attendance was 4,310.

4. Medical Inspection.

Routine Medical Inspections are always carried out in the school premises; in the most recently constructed schools a special room for these inspections is provided, but at the other schools children are examined either in the Head Teacher's room, or, more usually, in a classroom which, when possible, is temporarily vacated, the children being sent to another classroom or to the school playground. The Head Teachers heartily co-operate in securing the best arrangement at their schools for the conducting of the inspections, but at some of the schools it is quite impossible to secure reasonably satisfactory conditions, unavoidable noise rendering accurate examinations difficult and testing of acuity of hearing by means of the whisper test impracticable; while poor lighting of some of the rooms used renders difficult the testing of the acuity of vision.

(a) *Age Groups inspected.*

"Entrants"	Children admitted during the year.	
	Number inspected	497
"Second Age Group" ..	Children between 8 and 9 years of age.	
	Number inspected	459
"Third Age Group" ..	Children between 12 and 13 years of age and children over 13 years of age who have not already been examined after reaching the age of 12 years.	
	Number inspected	514

(b) *The Schedule of the Board of Education was followed.*

(c) *Steps taken to secure the earlier ascertainment of Crippling Defects.*

Defects in children of the Code Age Groups are detected at the Routine Medical Inspections. Lists of special cases are presented by the Head Teachers and through various agencies children are referred

to the School Inspection Clinic at the Health Office for examination on account of suspected illness or defect. The number of such "Specials" examined during the year was 1,136.

(d) Extent to which disturbance of School arrangements was involved by the Medical Inspections.

Reference has already been made to the unavoidable disturbance caused by the necessary vacating at times of classrooms while Routine Medical Inspections are conducted therein.

Many of the Head Teachers show a sympathetic interest in the work, and all possible is done to minimise the disturbance to school arrangements.

5. Findings of Medical Inspections.

(a) Malnutrition.

Of the 1,506 children examined at Routine Medical Inspections, 96 (6.37 per cent.) were more or less below normal and 19 were referred for treatment and observation; fifteen specials were also found to be suffering from malnutrition and were referred for treatment and observation.

(b) Uncleanliness.

In addition to the Routine Medical examination of children at the schools, systematic surveys of all children in the schools were carried out by the Health Visitors. At the Routine Inspections during the year, out of a total of 1,506 children, 11 or 0.73 per cent. were found to have unclean hair, and at the 113 surveys as to cleanliness of skin, hair, scalp and clothing, 15,444 examinations of children were made by the Health Visitors, who found 255 children with unclean hair.

(c) Minor Ailments and Diseases of the Skin.

The minor ailments found during the year at Routine Inspections and at the Inspection Clinic are detailed in Official Table II., and the number of children treated for these defects are summarised in Official Table IV. Both these tables will be found at the end of the report.

It may here be stated that during the year six new cases of scalp ringworm came under observation, as compared with eight in 1932; thirteen cases of scabies, as compared with nineteen in 1932; 116 cases of impetigo, as compared with 137 in 1932.

(d) Visual Defects and External Eye Disease.

During the year the number of children found to have defective vision, squint, or symptoms of eye strain, and who were referred for further examination by the Education Committee's Ophthalmic Surgeon, was: At the Routine Inspections, 124; among "Specials," 42.

A total of 34 cases of external eye disease came under observation during the year, as compared with 27 cases in 1932.

(e) Nose and Throat Defects.

During the year a total of 156 children were found to have enlargement of their tonsils or adenoid tissue which required treatment of some kind. The abnormal condition of noses and throats of many of these children were found to yield to indirect treatment such as the removal of carious teeth, etc., and 29 only received operative treatment for the removal of excessive lymphoid tissue.

(f) Ear Disease and Defective Hearing.

Four cases of defective hearing were discovered at routine medical inspections and were referred for treatment.

A total of 33 cases of ear disease, or otorrhœa, came under observation during the year, as compared with 29 cases in 1932.

(g) Dental Defects.

In Table IV., Group V., which follows, will be found a summary of the work at the inspections at the schools and of treatment at the Dental Clinic at the Health Office. At the Routine Medical Inspections at the schools it was found that 375 of the 1,506 children inspected had teeth in a perfectly sound condition.

(h) Orthopædic and Postural Defects.

Twenty children who had deformities came under observation at the routine inspections and among "specials. The defects of children referred to in Table III. causing crippling included paralysis of different degrees following infantile paralysis, and the result of old rickets.

(i) Heart Disease and Rheumatism.

Six cases of organic heart disease and fifteen cases of functional heart disease were discovered during the year. These cases were referred for treatment as necessary and kept under observation during the year.

(j) Tuberculosis.

Two children in a pre-tubercular condition came under observation during the year, and one child who was suspected to be suffering from pulmonary tuberculosis came under observation at the routine inspections. These children and five others who were found to be suffering from non-pulmonary tuberculosis were referred by the School Medical Officer for treatment and observation to the Tuberculosis Officer at the County Council's Dispensary in the town. In the absence of an open-air school in the Borough many of these children have to be excluded from school for long periods.

(k) Other Defects and Diseases.

Fourteen cases of other defects were referred for treatment at the routine inspections and 320 cases among "specials"; among these were cases of hernia, injuries, sprains, general debility, vermes, incontinence, etc., etc.

6. Following-up.*Work of Health Visitors.*

The Health Visitors attend the Routine Medical and Dental Inspections, the School Clinic and Special Treatment Clinics, and follow up at the homes children found to be suffering from defects, with a view to securing adequate treatment.

As will be seen from the tables, most of the children suffering from minor ailments were dealt with at the School Treatment Clinic, which they continued to attend until cured. A large number of children were dealt with at the special treatment clinics; of 515 children found to have defective vision who were referred for refraction, no fewer than 485 were dealt with at the Eye Clinic; 928 children were referred for dental treatment as the result of dental inspection by the Dental Surgeon, and a total of 645 children

received treatment at the Dental Clinic. It is chiefly in connection with children who need treatment and whose parents promise at the inspections, or the Health Visitors at the homes, that they will secure treatment privately, that difficulty arises. Too often it is found on re-visitation of these homes that the parents have failed to carry out their promises and are still unwilling to avail themselves of the facilities for treatment afforded by the Education Committee.

In connection with many such cases, the co-operation of the Head Teachers is sought; in others, the members of the Children's Aid Committee have been successful in having adequate treatment secured. In this connection the Health Visitors during the year made 4,989 visits to 2,724 individual children at their homes.

7. Medical Treatment.

(a) *Malnutrition.*

Cases of malnutrition are kept under observation and the majority are regularly weighed and measured at the school inspection clinic. All cases are periodically re-examined by the School Medical Officer, and advice given as to diet, proper and adequate rest, etc. In necessitous cases, supplies of cod liver oil and malt are given, and milk daily at the schools.

(b) *Uncleanliness.*

Children found at the routine inspections or at the special surveys at the schools to have unclean hair are excluded from school and their homes visited by the Health Visitors, who explain to the parents or guardians measures indicated for the proper cleansing of the children. Printed directions are also given at these visits stating the necessity for prompt action in the matter and that the child will not be re-admitted to school until certified by the School Medical Officer at the School Clinic to have been cleansed and all nits to have been removed.

The surveys at the schools, which are always made on "surprise" visits, and the subsequent procedure outlined, have effected considerable improvement as regards the cleanliness of the person and clothing of the children.

Parents who do not cleanse their children within a period of seven days from date of exclusion from school and service of notice are proceeded against under the School Attendance Bye-Laws. This procedure has proved to be quite efficient and the loss of attendance due to exclusion from school owing to uncleanliness has very considerably decreased during recent years.

No legal proceedings were instituted during 1933.

(c) *Minor Ailments and Diseases of the Skin.*

The School Treatment Clinic is held on five mornings each week when the schools are in session and during the school holidays as required. The great majority of children suffering from minor ailments are treated at this clinic until cured. The Health Visitors carry out treatment under the general supervision of the School Medical Officer. In cases in which proper supplementary treatment is found not to have been carried out at the home, parents are visited and a demonstration of the correct methods of applying remedies, etc., there given by the Health Visitors. Many of the parents attend at this clinic with their children, thus learning the correct methods of dealing with minor ailments.

X-Ray treatment for scalp ringworm is administered by means of the Education Committee's apparatus at the Health Office by Dr. B. H. Palmer, and five cases were thus treated during the year.

(d) *Visual Defects and External Eye Disease.*

During the year 515 children were referred for further examination owing to errors of refraction; of these, 485 were examined and prescribed for at the School Eye Clinic, refraction under the influence of homatropin being carried out in 169 cases. The Ophthalmic Surgeon conducted the Eye Clinic on 42 occasions in 1933. Six other children received treatment privately. Glasses were prescribed for 407 children, and up to the end of the year had been procured in 397 cases. The children made 1,132 attendances at the Clinic.

The cases examined were as follows :

32	...	Hypermetropia.
42	...	Hypermetropia with Astigmatism.
14	...	Myopia.
25	...	Myopia with Astigmatism.
10	...	Mixed Astigmatism.
15	...	Strabismus.

During the year the following cases were also referred to the Eye Clinic :

13 Conjunctivitis.	2 Corneal Nebulæ.
4 Phlyctenular Keratitis.	4 Styes.
8 Blepharitis.	1 Disseminated Choroiditis
4 Meibomian Cyst.	1 Injury to eye.

(e) *Nose and Throat Defects.*

During the year 156 children who required some form of treatment on account of abnormal conditions of their tonsils or adenoid tissue came under observation. These children had various degrees of excessive or unhealthy naso-pharyngeal tissue, which was not due to temporary inflammation, for which different forms of treatment—from the removal of a septic tooth to the removal of the tissue by operation were indicated. As a rule children are not referred for operative treatment for these conditions until measures directed to obtaining a healthier state of the mouth and naso-pharynx fail, after a reasonable trial, to produce improvement. Many of the cases yielded to the practice of regular breathing exercises following dental treatment.

During the year 29 children were operated on for the removal of enlarged tonsils or adenoids; three of these received treatment privately, and 26 at the Ramsgate General Hospital through the Education Committee's scheme, under which the Hospital Authorities were paid £1 11s. 6d. in respect of three children of a group of seven or eight, and £1 for the others. Parents of children about to be operated on receive instructions from the School Medical Officer in reference to the preparation of their children, and after the operation every effort is made to follow up each child to ensure the continuation of regular breathing exercises and teeth cleaning.

(f) *Ear Disease and Defective Hearing.*

A total of 45 children received treatment for minor ear defects during the year. Of these, 37 were treated at the School Inspection Clinic and eight received private treatment.

(g) Dental Defects.

The agreement entered into in 1927 with the authorities of the Ramsgate General Hospital for the treatment of children who require extraction of teeth while under the influence of a general anæsthetic was continued. During the year 9 children were dealt with under this scheme at the Hospital.

Inspections by the Dental Surgeon at the schools took place at three sessions, the average number of children inspected at each session being 180. The Dental Clinic was held on 67 occasions and the work carried out is summarised in Table IV., Group V., which will be found at the end of this report.

A large but gradually decreasing number of parents unfortunately refuse to take advantage of the facilities available for the preservation of their children's teeth, and many parents still postpone treatment until further deteriorations leading to pain takes place.

(h) Orthopædic and Postural Defects.

Following the appointment on the Honorary Staff of the Ramsgate General Hospital of an Orthopædic Surgeon, the Education Committee adopted a scheme for the Borough for the orthopædic treatment of non-tuberculous school children. The Maternity and Child Welfare Committee of the Town Council decided to participate in the scheme in order to secure orthopædic treatment for children under five years of age, and the scheme was approved by the Board of Education and the Ministry of Health at the end of 1928. Details of the scheme were fully stated in the Annual Report for 1928.

Ten children were dealt with at the Orthopædic Clinic at the Ramsgate General Hospital during 1933. In addition, three children attended the National Orthopædic Hospital, Great Portland Street; one other child attended Guy's Hospital for treatment and was an in-patient for three weeks.

(i) Heart Disease and Rheumatism.

Children suffering from heart disease are periodically re-examined by the School Medical Officer and advice given as to the need for care in physical exercises, games, etc. In addition, such children are referred as necessary for treatment and advice to their family doctors and in some cases are referred to the Ramsgate Dispensary.

(j) Tuberculosis.

It has been stated previously that children found at the inspections to be suffering from tuberculosis, and certain others suspected to be suffering from the disease, are referred to the County Council's Dispensary in the town for treatment by the Tuberculosis Officer, who periodically informs the School Medical Officer as to the fitness or otherwise of the children to attend school.

(k) Other Defects and Diseases.

Some of the children suffering from other defects receive treatment at the School Inspection Clinic and all of the cases are kept under observation. Most of these defects are such that treatment either at the Dispensary, or by private practitioner or hospital, is indicated.

Summary showing cases dealt with and attendances at the School Clinic during 1933:

Disease or Condition.	Number of Children.		Attendances
Impetigo	...	110	1,225
Verminous Impetigo ...	...	1	11
Eczema, Seborrhœa, etc.	...	87	495
Abscesses, Whitlows, Cuts, Burns, Abrasions, etc.	...	248	1,636
Ringworm of Scalp ...	...	6	289
Ringworm of Body ...	...	11	65
Scabies	...	12	85
External Eye Disease	...	59	431
Otorrhœa	...	31	272
Nose, Mouth & Throat Conditions	...	118	280
Tuberculosis, all forms	...	1	2
Other Diseases or Conditions	...	589	1,277
Total	...	1,273	6,068

In addition, 165 children who were convalescent from or contacts of infectious disease made 207 attendances at the Clinic for examination as to their fitness to attend school.

8. Infectious Diseases.

During the early weeks of the year Influenza and catarrhal conditions were unduly prevalent and led to greatly diminished attendances at the schools. In the case of an infants' department in one of the schools, owing to the large percentage of absentees of both children and teachers, closure of the department for a period of one week was decided upon by the Local Education Authority.

The control of infectious diseases in schools is best effected by immediate exclusion and isolation of individuals suffering from illness of an infectious or contagious nature and by excluding and keeping under observation children living in infected houses. Closure for purely medical reasons is very rarely desirable; it does not prevent intimate association at play, at cinemas, etc., of the excluded children, while it impedes supervision with the possibility that some of the contacts may develop disease subsequent to school closure and for a time act as additional foci.

The Board of Education's amended regulations secure that diminished attendance during a period of epidemic shall not be considered in itself an adequate reason for closing a school, and that when a local Education Authority closes a school on the advice or with the approval of the School Medical Officer, such advice or approval shall only be given on the ground that such closure is necessary for medical reasons.

Authorities are secured against financial loss when schools are kept open with a greatly lowered attendance.

Throughout the year the School Medical Officer authorised the exclusion of children when their exclusion was desirable to prevent the spread of infectious diseases, on the ground that their uncleanly

or verminous condition was detrimental to the other scholars, or on the ground that owing to the state of their health or their physical or mental defects they were incapable of receiving proper benefit from the instruction in school.

Certificates of exclusion are brought to the notice of the School Attendance Officer, who informs the Head Teachers. Children so excluded are not re-admitted to school until the School Medical Officer is satisfied that they can attend school without risk to themselves or others. The School Attendance Officer and the Head Teachers give information to the School Medical Officer in reference to children who are absent from school owing to illnesses, which possibly may be infectious, and all such cases are investigated.

During the year the number of intimations received from Head Teachers was 287. These included intimations in reference to 77 children who were suffering from or suspected to be suffering from Measles, 55 from Whooping Cough, 36 from Chickenpox and 5 from Mumps.

Children suffering from infectious diseases and contacts living in infected houses are excluded from school in accordance with the definite periods set out in the Board's Memorandum of Closure of and Exclusion from School.

Vaccinal Condition.

At the Routine Medical Inspections it was found that of the 497 Entrants examined, only 211 (42.45 per cent.) were vaccinated; of 459 children in the Second Age Group only 214 (46.62 per cent.); and of 514 children in the Third Age Group, 208 (or 40.46 per cent.).

It is regrettable that 57 per cent. of these children were not protected against smallpox.

9. Open-air Education.

There is no open-air school in the Borough. Open-air classes are held in the playgrounds of the public elementary schools, and it is highly desirable that every facility should be given to Head Teachers to increase the number of such classes. A definite need exists for a school in which certain children could be educated throughout the year under open-air conditions. A reference to Table III. at the end of this report shows the numbers in different groups of physically defective children who would benefit from open-air education.

While there can be doubt as to the need for an open-air school in the Borough, the very considerable expenditure involved will probably for some time cause the erection and equipment of such a special school to be postponed. Some such provision cannot, however, be indefinitely postponed, and it is to be regretted that it was not considered feasible to arrange in connection with the new school at Northwood for one or two classes in which children could receive open-air education throughout the year.

10. Physical Training.

Physical exercises in accordance with the syllabus of the Board of Education are carried out in all the schools, and whenever possible

take place in the school playgrounds. The co-operation of the Head Teachers is requested in connection with children found at the inspections specially to need breathing exercises, etc.; there is no organiser of physical training for the area, but there is no doubt that general supervision by an expert of the physical education given in the Schools of the Borough would be a distinct advantage; were some such arrangements made an easy development which would be extremely useful would be the formation of classes for short periods of corrective exercises daily for children discovered at medical inspections to have slight lateral curvature of the spine, round shoulders, flat foot, etc.

11. Provision of Meals.

Milk is supplied at the schools and other assistance arranged for through the Children's Aid Committee, on the recommendation of the School Medical Officer.

The Education Committee decided towards the end of the year to contribute the sum of ten pounds towards the Ramsgate Parochial Soup Kitchen. This enabled the Committee to receive tickets equivalent to 1,200 meals.

The Committee also made a grant of five pounds for the purchase of additional equipment at the Soup Kitchen.

12. Co-operation.

(a) Co-operation of Parents.

Parents are always invited to attend at the schools during the routine medical inspection of their children. If present and a defect is discovered in a child, advice is given to the parent as to the need for obtaining treatment; if not present, the child is followed up by one of the Health Visitors at the home.

During the year, 422 parents attended at the routine inspections of 497 Entrants; 317 parents attended at the routine inspections of 459 children in the Second Age Group; 271 parents attended at the routine inspections of 514 children in the Third Age Group.

(b) Co-operation of Teachers.

Several references have been made previously in this report to the assistance given by the Teachers in connection with medical inspections; it may be added that they compile from the school registers, lists of children of the code groups due for routine medical inspection. At each occasion on which routine medical inspections are carried out in a department the Head Teachers refer for examination as "specials" all children who are not due for inspection, but are suffering from or suspected to be suffering from any defect or ailment. They also throughout the year refer such children to the Inspection Clinic at the Health Office. Some of the Head Teachers take great interest in the work and personally attend at the routine inspections. In view of the great influence which Teachers have with parents, an asset of the greatest importance to the success of the school medical work is the co-operation of all Teachers in doing everything possible to secure appropriate treatment for children suffering from remedial defects.

(c) Co-operation of School Attendance Officer.

This officer brings to the notice of the School Medical Officer children absent from school who are said to be ill but not under treatment by a doctor, and such children are referred to the School Clinic, or, when necessary, enquiries are made at the homes. As has been stated, certificates of exclusion from school and of fitness to attend given by the School Medical Officer are each day brought to the notice of the Attendance Officer, who, accordingly informs the Head Teacher and sees that certificates are acted upon.

Certificates as to illness of school children given by local medical practitioners are, on receipt, submitted to the School Medical Officer. The School Attendance Officer is informed by the School Medical Officer of all children who have not been cleansed within seven days after having been excluded, enquiries are made by him as to the existence of any special circumstances, such as temporary incapacity of the mother, which might influence the School Attendance Committee in deciding as to the institution of legal proceedings under the Attendance Bye-Laws.

(d) Co-operation of Voluntary Bodies.

Supplies of Cod Liver Oil, Milk, etc., are obtained for the children of necessitous parents when recommended by the School Medical Officer through the Children's Aid Committee, out of voluntary funds. This Committee also arranges for and meets the expenses of sending debilitated children to convalescent homes, to London Hospitals for special treatment, and in suitable cases assists in the obtaining of surgical boots, etc.

13. Blind, Deaf, Defective and Epileptic Children.

(a) The model arrangements of the Board of Education under the Elementary School (Defective and Epileptic Children) Act, 1899, and the Mental Deficiency Act, 1913, have been adopted by the Local Education Authority.

Such children are detected at the routine medical inspections and at the examination of "Specials" at the schools and Inspection Clinic. Cases of defective vision are referred for treatment and are usually dealt with at the Eye Clinic; cases of deafness are referred for appropriate treatment, some receiving operative treatment for abnormal throat and nose conditions through the Education Committee's scheme. These cases are followed up, and in instances of severe defects which after treatment do not show improvement sufficient to enable benefit to be derived from instruction at a public elementary school, arrangements are made by the Education Committee for education at suitable institutions.

(b) There is no special school in or near the Borough.

14. Full-time Courses of Higher Education for Blind, Deaf, Defective and Epileptic Students.

No provision for such courses is made in the Borough.

15. Nursery Schools.

There are no Nursery Schools in the Borough.

16. Secondary Schools.

All work in connection with the Secondary Schools in the Borough is carried out by the Kent County Council.

17. Parents' Payments.

The arrangements in connection with the payment by parents for medical treatment of their children, through the Clinics provided by the Education Committee, which were approved by the Board of Education and were fully stated in a previous Annual Report, continued during the year.

The total amount paid in respect of such treatment in accordance with the scales, from 1st January to 31st December, was £60 7s. 9d.

From time to time children of necessitous parents whose ailments do not fall within the scope of the school treatment clinic come under observation. Such children are referred for medicinal or local treatment to the Ramsgate and St. Lawrence Dispensary, and during the year the Education Committee, with the approval of the Board of Education, made a grant of ten guineas to that institution in respect of the medical treatment of children of school age.

18. Health Education.

No special activity in this direction was undertaken during the year.

Miscellaneous.

Employment of Children and Young Persons.

The School Medical Officer is the certifying officer of the Local Education Authority, under the Employment of Children Act, 1903. Ramsgate is not an industrial town and employment of children is practically limited to delivering newspapers and milk, running errands for tradesmen, or, in the case of girls, assisting at homes.

BOARD OF EDUCATION TABLES.

TABLE I.

Return of Medical Inspections.

(a) ROUTINE MEDICAL INSPECTIONS.

Number of Inspections in the prescribed Groups:

Entrants	..	..	..	..	497
Second Age Group	..	..	..	..	459
Third Age Group	..	..	..	..	514
			Total	..	1,470

Number of other Routine Inspections	..	..	..	36
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(b) OTHER INSPECTIONS.

Number of Special Inspections	..	..	..	1,136
Number of Re-inspections	..	..	..	861
		Total	..	1,997

TABLE II.
(A) Return of Defects found by Medical Inspection in the Year ended 31st December, 1933.

Defect or Disease.					Routine Inspections		Special Inspections.	
					No. of Defects.		No. of Defects.	
					Requiring treatment.	Requiring to be kept under observation but not requiring treatment.	Requiring treatment.	Requiring to be kept under observation but not requiring treatment.
Skin	Malnutrition	...	...	...	5	14	8	7
	Ringworm:							
	Scalp	...	...	...	—	—	6	—
	Body	...	...	...	1	—	11	—
	Scabies	...	...	...	1	—	12	—
Eye	Impetigo	...	...	...	6	—	110	—
	Other Diseases (non-tuberculous)	...	...	...	12	—	92	—
	Blepharitis	...	...	...	7	—	8	—
	Conjunctivitis	...	...	...	1	—	18	—
	Keratitis	...	...	...	—	—	—	—
Ear	Corneal Opacities	...	...	...	—	1	—	—
	Defective Vision (excluding Squint)	...	...	...	108	64	37	4
	Squint	...	...	...	16	7	5	—
	Other Conditions	...	...	...	—	—	33	—
	Defective Hearing	...	...	...	4	—	—	—
Nose and Throat	Otitis Media	...	...	...	1	3	29	—
	Other Ear Diseases	...	...	...	—	—	19	—
	Chronic Tonsillitis only	...	...	...	45	20	50	9
	Adenoids only	...	...	...	4	—	3	3
	Chronic Tonsillitis and Adenoids	...	...	...	11	—	9	2
Heart and Circulation	Other Conditions	...	...	...	50	1	39	—
	Enlarged Cervical Glands (non-tuberculous)	...	...	...	3	6	1	—
	Defective Speech	...	...	...	5	—	1	—
	Heart Disease:							
	Organic	...	...	...	—	6	—	—
Lungs	Functional	...	...	...	—	12	—	3
	Anæmia	...	...	...	3	—	2	—
	Bronchitis	...	...	...	1	1	3	—
	Other Non-Tuberculous Diseases	...	...	...	1	8	10	—
	Pulmonary:							
Tuberculosis	Definite	...	...	...	—	—	—	—
	Suspected	...	...	...	1	—	—	—
	Non-Pulmonary:							
	Glands	...	...	...	1	3	1	—
	Bones and Joints	...	...	...	—	—	—	—
Nervous System	Skin	...	...	...	—	—	—	—
	Other Forms	...	...	...	—	—	—	—
	Epilepsy	...	...	...	2	1	—	1
	Chorea	...	...	...	1	2	1	—
	Other Conditions	...	...	...	—	—	—	—
Deformities	Rickets	...	...	...	—	—	—	—
	Spinal Curvature	...	...	...	—	—	—	—
	Other Forms	...	...	...	6	4	6	4
Other Defects and Diseases (excluding Uncleanliness and Dental Diseases)					14	5	320	—

B. Number of Individual Children found at Routine Medical Inspection to require treatment (excluding uncleanliness and dental diseases).

Group.	Number of Children.		Percentage of Children found to require treatment.
	Inspected.	Found to require treatment.	
Prescribed Groups:			
Entrants	497	79	15.89
Second Age Group ..	459	104	22.65
Third Age Group ..	514	101	19.64
Total (prescribed groups)	1470	284	19.31
Other routine inspections	36	10	27.77

TABLE III.

Return of all Exceptional Children in the Area.

CHILDREN SUFFERING FROM MULTIPLE DEFECTS.

Children suffering from any combination of the following types of defect:—

Blindness (NOT Partial Blindness).
 Deafness (NOT Partial Deafness).
 Mental Defect.
 Epilepsy.
 Active Tuberculosis.
 Crippling (as defined in the penultimate category of the Table).
 Heart Disease.

The number of children suffering from any combination of the above defects.	Nil
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BLIND CHILDREN.

At Certified Schools for the Blind.	At Public Elementary Schools.	At other Institutions.	At no school or Institution.	Total.
—	—	—	—	nil

PARTIALLY BLIND CHILDREN.

At Certified Schools for the Blind.	At Certified Schools for the Partially Blind.	At Public Elementary Schools.	At other Institutions.	At no School or Institution.	Total.
—	—	—	—	—	Nil.

DEAF CHILDREN.

At Certified Schools for the Deaf.	At Public Elementary Schools.	At other Institutions.	At no school or Institution.	Total.
1	—	—	—	1

PARTIALLY DEAF CHILDREN.

At Certified Schools for the Deaf.	At Certified Schools for the Partially Deaf.	At Public Elementary Schools.	At other Institutions.	At no School or Institution.	Total.
—	—	—	—	—	Nil.

MENTALLY DEFECTIVE CHILDREN.
FEEBLE-MINDED CHILDREN.

At Certified Schools for Mentally Defective Children.	At Public Elementary Schools.	At other Institutions.	At no school or Institution.	Total.
—	2	—	2	4

EPILEPTIC CHILDREN.
CHILDREN SUFFERING FROM SEVERE EPILEPSY.

At Certified Special Schools.	At Public Elementary Schools.	At other Institutions.	At no school or Institution.	Total.
—	—	—	—	nil

PHYSICALLY DEFECTIVE CHILDREN.
A.—TUBERCULOUS CHILDREN.

I.—CHILDREN SUFFERING FROM PULMONARY TUBERCULOSIS.
(Including pleura and intra-thoracic glands).

At Certified Special Schools.	At Public Elementary Schools.	At other Institutions.	At no school or Institution.	Total.
—	3	—	3	6

II.—CHILDREN SUFFERING FROM NON-PULMONARY
TUBERCULOSIS.

(This category should include tuberculosis of all sites other than those shown
in (I) above.)

At Certified Special Schools.	At Public Elementary Schools.	At other Institutions.	At no school or Institution.	Total.
7	10	—	4	21

B.—DELICATE CHILDREN.

At Certified Special Schools.	At Public Elementary Schools.	At other Institutions.	At no school or Institution.	Total.
—	28	—	—	28

C.—CRIPPLED CHILDREN.

At Certified Special Schools.	At Public Elementary Schools.	At other Institutions.	At no school or Institution.	Total.
2	24	—	3	29

D.—CHILDREN WITH HEART DISEASE.

At Certified Special Schools.	At Public Elementary	At other Institutions.	At no school or Institution.	Total.
—	—	—	—	nil

TABLE IV.

Return of Defects treated during the year ended 31st December, 1933.

TREATMENT TABLE.

GROUP I.—*Minor Ailments (excluding Uncleanliness, for which see GROUP VI.)*

Disease or Defect.	Number of Defects treated, or under treatment during the year.		
	Under the Authority's Scheme.	Otherwise.	Total.
Skin:			
Ringworm Scalp ..	6 (5)*	—	6
Ringworm-Body	11	1	12
Scabies	9	4	13
Impetigo	111	6	117
Other skin disease ..	56	28	84
Minor Eye Defects	48	9	57
Minor Ear Defects	37	8	45
Miscellaneous	233	27	260
Total	511	83	594

* Treated by X-rays.

GROUP II.—*Defective Vision and Squint (excluding Minor Eye Defects treated as Minor Ailments—GROUP I.)*

Defect or Disease.	Number of Defects dealt with.				No. of children for whom spectacles were			
	Under the Authority's Scheme.	By Private Practitioner or at Hospital, apart from the Authority's Scheme.	Otherwise	Total.	Prescribed.		Obtained.	
					(i) Under the Authority's Scheme.	(ii) Otherwise	(i) Under the Authority's Scheme.	(ii) Otherwise
Errors of Refraction (including Squint)	485	6	—	491	407	6	397	6
Other Defect or Disease of the Eye.	25	—	—	25				
Total ...	510	6	—	516				

GROUP III.—*Treatment of Defects of Nose and Throat.*

Number of Defects.													
Received Operative Treatment.												Received other forms of Treatment	Total number treated.
Under the Authority's Scheme in Clinic or Hospital.				By private practitioner or Hospital, apart from the Authority's Scheme				Total.					
(i)	(ii)	(iii)	(iv)	(i)	(ii)	(iii)	(iv)	(i)	(ii)	(iii)	(iv)		
1	—	25	—	—	—	3	—	1	—	28	—	173	202

(i) Tonsils only. (ii) Adenoids only. (iii) Tonsils and adenoids.

(iv) Other defects of the nose and Throat.

GROUP IV.—*Orthopaedic and Postural Defects.*

	Under the Authority's Scheme.			Otherwise.			Total number treated
	Residential treatment with education.	Residential treatment without education.	Non-Residential treatment at an orthopaedic clinic.	Residential treatment with education.	Residential treatment without education.	Non-Residential treatment at an orthopaedic clinic.	
Number of Children treated.	2	—	10	—	—	4	16

